

Hamilton Annual Report



2004



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TOWN OF HAMILTON

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

Town of Hamilton
Essex County
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Incorporated June 21, 1793
Area 14.99 Square Miles
Town Population 8254

Sixth Congressional District
Fifth Councilor District
First Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District
Fourth Essex Representative District

State Officials

Congressman: John Tierney of Salem
Senator: Bruce E. Tarr of Gloucester
Representative: Brad Hill of Ipswich

Town Hall Hours

Monday: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday through Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon

IN MEMORIAM

Evelyn F. Eggleston
Gen. George Smith Patton
Betty Jane Pisani
Francis P. Sears, Jr.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2004 was another busy and challenging year for the Selectmen. Paul Ricker stepped down after one term, and Bob Bullivant, who had served on the Personnel Board, won election to the open seat in the May town election. Mimi Fanning retired after 18 years of service in the Town Clerk's office, 14 years as elected Town Clerk. Jane Wetson was appointed to fill the balance of the term and was elected Town Clerk in May.

Some highlights of the year:

- The Senior Van went into operation and ridership continued to grow.
- An Outside Water Usage by-law was adopted, the first in the Ipswich River basin.
- Sale and development of Depot Square put this town owned property back on the tax rolls and added to a rejuvenated downtown.
- Gala rededication of the Liberty Road Milestones in Patton Park with dignitaries from France and members of the Patton family.
- The Master Plan was adopted and implementation began with the establishment of Economic Development Committee, Housing Partnership Committee, and Agriculture and Equestrian Advisory Committee.
- Rehabilitation of Weaver Pond in Patton Park.
- Revitalized town website launched, offering the option of paying real estate taxes online.
- Last year of twelve year road rebuilding plan. Completion of Cutler Road bridge.
- Town joined North Shore HOME Consortium.
- Resolution of the proposal by the First Congregational Church to build a new function hall through means of an unprecedented all-boards meeting process.
- Introduction of GIS computerized mapping.

The Selectmen continued to deal with a number of challenging issues. The work of the Public Safety Building Committee was put on hold while the Selectmen, members of other town boards, and police, fire and emergency center officials from Hamilton and Wenham conducted an exhaustive study of the pros and cons of regionalization of police and fire departments in the two towns. They were helped in this work by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Hamilton-Wenham League of Women Voters. At a joint meeting of the Selectmen in June, it was determined that there were not sufficient cost savings to warrant regionalizing the departments, however, both

Hamilton and Wenham Selectmen pledged to pursue any cost savings which might be available through equipment and facilities sharing.

The Long Range Planning Committee and the Budget Process Committee, the two new committees established with the Town of Wenham and the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District began their work. Part of the work of the Long Range Planning Committee included developing a capital planning process for the three entities. These efforts bore fruit through developing a shared computer network and collaboration on grounds maintenance between the Hamilton DPW and the School District. These committees are ongoing, and have already had a positive effect in the much less contentious budget process in 2004 than in 2003.

The town put its new state of the art well into operation during 2004. Unfortunately, its use is tied up with the appeal of our water withdrawal permit from DEP. This litigation is ongoing. While we would prefer not to expend these litigation dollars, the judgment of the Selectmen is that it is necessary to protect the Town's water use rights.

The Selectmen are well aware of the burden that almost total reliance on a residential tax base puts on our citizens. The development, pursuant to the Master Plan, of new zoning tools such as Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development and Planned Alternative Development, as well as exploration of adaptive reuse of the former town landfill, are part of the effort to reduce the burden. The town has also filed Home Rule petitions with the General Court which would adjust or alleviate the tax burden. Unfortunately, to date they have not been acted upon by the legislature.

Due to the many financial and other pressures, the business of town government has become exceedingly complex. The Selectmen would like to particularly thank the many citizens who have come forward to give their time and expertise on the new committees to help deal with the many challenges facing the Town of Hamilton.

William F. Bowler, Chairman

TOWN ADMINISTRATION

Selectmen (Elected)

William F. Bowler, 2005
James E. Bryant, 2006
Robert M. Bullivant, 2007

Town Administrator

Candace P. Wheeler
Maureen Hickey, Asst. Admin.
Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary
Robert Timpani, Facilities Mgr.

Town Counsel

Donna B. MacKenna

Town Moderator (Elected)

Bruce C. Ramsey, 2005

Town Clerk (Elected)

Jane M. Wetson, 2005
Marissa Frerk, Administrative Assistant

Registrar of Voters

Mary Anne Burrige, 2005
Edward W. Seaver, Jr., 2006
Jim Richards, 2007
Jane M. Wetson, ex-officio

Personnel Board

David Shaughnessy, 2005
Anne Marie Cullen, 2006
Lori Johnson, 2006
Larry Warner, 2007
Jack Akin, 2004 – resigned
Robert M. Bullivant - resign
Tom Lawnsby, appointed to fill
unexpired term 2005

MAPC Representative

Jean Nelson, 2005

MBTA Representative

Peter Burnham, 2005

FINANCE

Finance Director/Accountant

Cheryl A. Robertson
Dyan M. Katz, Asst. Accountant

Treasurer/Collector

Cheryl J. Booth
Margaret A. McLoughlin, Asst.
Treas/Coll.
Christine L. Larcom, Admin. Asst.

Assessors (Elected)

Robert H. Trussell, 2005
Steven Ozahowski, 2006
Gelean M. Campbell, 2007
Thomas S. Hogan, Jr., Appraiser
Robin Nolan, Director of Office
Margaret C. Donovan, Admin. Asst.

Finance/Advisory Committee

Laurie Wilson, 2005
Stephen Homer, 2004
Henrietta Gates, 2005
Steven Loeper, 2006
Arthur Oberheim, 2007

HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES

Board of Health

Stephen Druschel, 2005
Allen J. Ikalainen, 2004
Elizabeth Bernick, 2006
Julia Steeves, 2007
John Jacobi, Consultant Agent
Anne Jackman, Animal Insp.
Dyan Katz, Animal Insp.
Gail Messelaar, Admin. Asst.
Doris Cole, Secretary

Council on Aging

Mimi Fanning
Mary Maione
David Cooper
Bill Jenkins
Dorothy Lamson
Barbara Essensa

WHO'S WHO 2004

Senior Services Coordinator

Lindsey Snavelly

Stephen Walsh

Kent Richards

Housing Authority (Elected)

Julie Martineau, Coordinator

Leon Purington, State

J. Robert Fanning, 2005

Jay Burnham, 2006

Robert Poole, 2007

Leigh Keyser, 2009

Reserves

Joe Achadinha

Kathleen Costa

Sean Cullen

Charles Downey

David Marsh

David Mastrianni

Andrew Neill

Nathan Swisher

Michael Wetson

Myrna Doran, Admin. Asst.

Rev. Louis Bourgeois, Chaplain

Lockup

Edward Seaver, 2005

Clarence Trepanier, 2005

Harbormasters

Walter D. Cullen, 2005

Robert Blanchard, 2005

Stephen Trepanier, 2005

Office on Disability

Candace Wheeler, ADA Coordinator

Leigh Keyser, 2005

David Cooper, 2005

Veterans Service Officer

Terrance Hart

Veterans' Graves Officer

Albert Lougee, 2005

Jack Akin, 2005

Burial Agent

Terrance Hart

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Chief

Walter D. Cullen, 2007

Police Officers

Lt. Robert A. Nyland

Sgt. Paul R. Grant

Sgt. Donald D. Dupray

Sgt. Scott G. Janes

Parking Clerk

Jane M. Wetson

Emergency Management Dir.

Walter D. Cullen

Fire Chief

Philip W. Stevens, Jr., 2007

Deputy Chiefs

Kenneth Brand

Daniel Parsons

Channing Howard

Captain

Daniel Ellison

Mark Goodwin

Lieutenant

Michael Twomey

Raymond Brunet

David Shaughnessy

Joseph Allen

Fred Day, Chaplain

Patrolmen

Arthur Hatfield

Stephen Trepanier

Brian Shaw

Karen Wallace

Kenneth Nagy

Matthew Donovan

Michael Marchand

Richard Barthelmess

Firefighters

Harold Allen
Brandon Clark
Jeremy Clark
Stephen Collins
Timothy Crosbie
Michael Dolliver
Andrew Ellison
Keith Holloran
Donald Killam
Ronald Lees
Mark Wagner
Richard Ayer
Jeffery Cross
Edmund Mullin
Andre Painchaud
Carl Potter
Glenn Preston
Kevin Preston
Michele Sargent
Alexander Shaw
Kenneth Shedden
Erick Tarr
Bill Tetrault
Peter Walton
Kristine Ellis
Steven McInnis
Brian Hill

Fire Inspector/Hazardous Waste Coord.

Daniel Parsons

Forest Warden

Philip W. Stevens, Jr.

Deputy Forest Wardens

Kenneth Brand
Daniel Parsons
Channing Howard
Daniel Ellison
Mark Goodwin
Michael Twomey
Ray Brunet
David Shaughnessy
Edmund Mullin

Emergency Communications Board

Walter Cullen
William MacKenzie
Steven Kenney
Phillip W. Stevens, Jr.
Calvin Perkins
Daniel Lynch
Anne Marie Cullen
Peter Hersee

Emergency Center Staff

Anne Marie Cullen, Director
Kevin Harrison
Keith Holloran
Joe Achadinha
Brian Pratt
Kenneth Brand
Cynthia Shaw
David Mastrianni
James McNeilly
Andrew Neill

Public Works

Steven T. Kenney, Dir.
Board of Selectmen serve
as Board of Public Works
Gail Hannable, Admin. Asst.
Nancy Stevens, Admin. Asst.
Harold Allen
Rick Campana
Kirk Davis
David Dolan
Gary Kureta
Jeff Mazzetta
John Miley
Paul Rigol
Joseph Shea
Timothy Shea
Greg Stevens

TIP Coordinator

Steven Kenney

Tree/Insect Coordinator

Steven Kenney

LAND/BUILDING USE

Conservation Commission

Lisa Press, resigned
Paula Kent, 2005
Camilla Rich, 2005
Peter Dana, 2006
John Hamilton, 2006
Virginia Cookson, 2007
Robert Cronin, 2007
Michelle Stecyk, 2007
John Rhoads, Aux
John Hendrickson, Aux
James Hankin, Coordinator
Miles River Task Force

Open Space Committee

Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld,
Chairman

Sarah Getchell, Cordinator
John Hamilton
John Rhoads
Michele Stecyk
Jacqueline Hodge
Gretel Clark
Paul Penner
Sue McLaughlin
John Hendrickson
Chris Davis
Betsy Hopkins

Agricultural and Equestrian Committee

Peter Britton
Andrew Rodgers
Stephen Druschel
Camilla Rich
Susan Lawrence

Planning Board (Elected)

Rick Mitchell, 2008
Robin Willcox, 2005
Evelyn Shuman, 2006
Peter Clark, 2007
Marc Johnson, 2008
Zachariah Bensley, 2009 – resigned
Susie Richey, 2009
Jean Nelson, Coordinator
Citizens Action Planning Committee

Economic Development Committee

Peter Twining
Carl Swanson
Charles Chivakos
Peter Gordeau
William Gisness

Housing Partnership Committee

David Carey
Robert Poole
Sara del Rio
William Gavin
Daniel Gaquin

Zoning Board of Appeals

Beth Ganister, 2005
Winifred Whitman, 2006
David Sullivan 2007
Diane Meibbaum, alt
Susan Wiltshire, alt

Inspection Department(s)

Charles Brett, Building
Robert Brown, Electrical
William Thomas, Gas/Plumbing

Assistants

John Caldwell
Mark Unger
Paul Marshall
Debra Paskowski, Admin. Asst.

Sealer of Weights and Measures

Robert Rose

Historic District Commission

Thomas Catalano, 2007
Arthur Crosbie, 2005
Elizabeth Wheaton, 2005
Robert Payne, 2005
James Donovan, 2005
Stephen Homer, 2007
Stephanie Serafino, Alternate, 2007

Hamilton Historical Society

Arthur Crosbie
Annette Janes

Linda Coonrod
Kay Turner
Emily Cook
Mary Anne Burrridge
Edna Barney

Road Safety Committee

Bradford Kimball
Marie Buckley
Phyllis Cutler
Matt Donovan, Police Rep.
Tim Ford
John Hamilton
John Hendrickson
Camilla Rich

Chebacco Woods Mgmt.

Ralph Smith, 2005 - Manchester
Virginia Cookson, 2005
Sue McLaughlin, 2005
Ann Barton, 2005, Select. Rep.
Bob Moroney, ex-officio MbyS
Joe Sabella, M-by-S

OTHER REGIONAL PROGRAMS

**Hamilton-Wenham Library Trustees
(Elected)**

Wendy Waller Daynes, 2005
Blanche Day, 2005
Elizabeth Stanton, 2006
Annette Janes, 2006
Doris Gallant, 2007
Kevin Sperry, 2007 – resigned

Hamilton-Wenham Library

Shirley Raynard, Interim Dir.
Diane Barrett
Bethany Bodengraven
Tim Bean
Lisa Craig-McCormack
Nancy Day
Kelly Flynn
Lorraine Der
Jeanine Curtis
Karen D'Ambrosio

Julie Preston
Brett DeBose
William Devitt
Suzanne Liacos-Dix
Elizabeth Bellucci
Janet Dykstra
Josh Lear
David Lindsay
Dane Webber

Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Board

Bob Kerrigan
Lindle Willnow
Renee LaForce-MacDonald
David Parry
Adam Teal
Dennis Curran, Jr.
Margaret Whitesell, Director
Diane Brown, Admin. Asst.

Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council

Joanne Jones
Chris Eaton
Margaret Crossan
Mary Anne Ciriello
Mary Jo Favazzo
Meredith Gisness
Theresa Wenheimer
Helen Ribet

Hamilton-Wenham Technology Committee

William Furbur
Tom Bishop
William Nichol
Tom Cannon
Jeff Ham
Dick Hewett
Charles Rogal
Andy Wood
Candace Wheeler
Jeff Chelgren

SCHOOLS

Superintendent of Schools
Marinel D. McGrath, Ed.D

Business Manager

Charles E. Cooke, III

School Administration

Maryellen Duffy, Ed.D

Deborah Frontierro

Catherine Donovan

Jill Bonina

William Tyack

Jean Vitale

Lisa Heitz

Lois McIntyre

Marie Neve

Debbie Capozzi

Martha Curran

Jennifer D'India

Betty Minton

Elizabeth Stowell

Jacqueline Cooper

Trim Hahn, Principal, resigned

Brian O'Donoghue, Principal

Susan Cooke, Principal

Martha Cesarz, Principal

Janis C. DeSantis, Principal

Christopher Rice, Principal, resigned

Robert Krol, Principal

Regional School District Committee

Donald Gallant, 2007

Catherine Harrison, 2005

William Martin, 2005

Richard L. Boroff, 2005

William Patten, 2006

Elaine Carey, 2006

Nancy A. Morse, 2006

Lisa S. Gaquin, 2007

Denise A. Bisailon, 2007

Regional Vocational School Rep.

David W. Ketcham, 2006

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2004

ASSETS	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash and short-term investments.....	\$ 1,216,943	\$ 1,189,071	\$ 2,406,014
Investments.....	-	259,722	259,722
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectible amounts:			
Real estate and personal property taxes.....	166,364	-	166,364
Real estate tax deferrals.....	55,242	-	55,242
Tax liens.....	472,908	-	472,908
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....	94,804	-	94,804
Departmental and other.....	-	13,805	13,805
Loans.....	-	33,848	33,848
Investment in joint venture.....	282,555	-	282,555
Restricted assets:			
Cash and short-term investments.....	-	196,868	196,868
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$ 2,288,816	\$ 1,693,314	\$ 3,982,130
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
LIABILITIES:			
Warrants payable.....	\$ 75,975	\$ 10,944	\$ 86,919
Accrued payroll.....	39,907	9,223	49,130
Other liabilities.....	104,019	-	104,019
Deferred revenue.....	756,318	13,804	770,122
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	976,219	33,971	1,010,190
FUND BALANCES:			
Reserved for:			
Encumbrances and continuing appropriations.....	184,774	-	184,774
Stabilization.....	-	253,601	253,601
Tip fee stabilization.....	-	131,758	131,758
Loans.....	-	33,848	33,848
Perpetual permanent funds.....	-	200,000	200,000
Other specific purposes.....	-	200,544	200,544
Unreserved:			
Designated for subsequent year's expenditures.....	502,402	-	502,402
Designated for investment in joint venture.....	282,555	-	282,555
Undesignated, reported in:			
General fund.....	342,866	-	342,866
Special revenue funds.....	-	583,002	583,002
Capital projects funds.....	-	191,360	191,360
Permanent funds.....	-	65,230	65,230
TOTAL FUND BALANCES.....	1,312,597	1,659,343	2,971,940
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES.....	\$ 2,288,816	\$ 1,693,314	\$ 3,982,130

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Real estate and personal property taxes.....	\$ 14,837,753	\$ -	\$ 14,837,753
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....	934,668	-	934,668
Tax liens.....	34,479	-	34,479
Payments in lieu of taxes.....	24,751	-	24,751
Charges for services.....	178,638	373,249	551,887
Intergovernmental	755,563	124,003	879,566
Special assessments.....	7,924	-	7,924
Penalties and interest on taxes.....	43,824	-	43,824
Licenses, permits and fees.....	143,625	-	143,625
Fines and forfeitures.....	3,300	-	3,300
Departmental.....	122,236	-	122,236
Contributions.....	-	18,888	18,888
Investment income.....	28,263	2,027	30,290
Other.....	-	15,003	15,003
TOTAL REVENUES.....	17,115,024	533,170	17,648,194
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General government.....	1,012,723	10,249	1,022,972
Public safety.....	2,090,322	251,820	2,342,142
Education.....	11,237,032	-	11,237,032
Public works.....	1,556,691	-	1,556,691
Health and human services.....	113,437	16,119	129,556
Culture and recreation.....	626,812	189,950	816,762
Pension benefits.....	420,006	-	420,006
Employee benefits.....	477,237	-	477,237
Property and liability insurance.....	146,379	-	146,379
State and county charges.....	200,179	-	200,179
Debt service:			
Principal.....	180,000	-	180,000
Interest.....	95,697	-	95,697
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	18,156,515	468,138	18,624,653
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES.....	(1,041,491)	65,032	(976,459)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers in.....	387,535	100,000	487,535
Sale of land.....	260,000	-	260,000
Transfers out.....	(291,755)	(268,000)	(559,755)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES).....	355,780	(168,000)	187,780
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES.....	(685,711)	(102,968)	(788,679)
FUND BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR.....	1,998,308	1,762,311	3,760,619
FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR.....	\$ 1,312,597	\$ 1,659,343	\$ 2,971,940

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Annual Report

Calendar Year Ending

12/31/04

I hereby submit my Annual Report as Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Hamilton
for the calendar year ended December 31, 2004.

January 1, 2004	\$3,091,365
Receipts	\$19,455,787
Disbursements	<u>(\$20,421,750)</u>
December 31, 2004	<u>\$2,125,402</u>

Investments - December 31, 2004

Stabilization Fund	\$	54,093
Clark Property Fund	\$	220,660
Conservation Commission	\$	76,724
Cultural Council	\$	4,617
NESWC	\$	132,967
Trust Funds	\$	<u>462,505</u>
	\$	951,565

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl J. Booth, CMMT, CMMC
Treasurer/Collector

TREASURER/COLLECTOR
Annual Report
Calendar Year Ending
12/31/04

		<u>January - June</u>	<u>July - December</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>COLLECTIONS</u>	<u>YEAR</u>			
REAL ESTATE	2005	\$ 104,203	\$ 7,383,013	\$ 7,487,216
	2004	\$ 7,669,504	\$ 149,029	\$ 7,818,533
	2003	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Prior to 2002	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		<u>\$ 7,773,707</u>	<u>\$ 7,532,042</u>	<u>\$ 15,305,749</u>
PERSONAL PROPERTY	2005	\$ 1,605	\$ 59,614	\$ 61,219
	2004	\$ 58,166	\$ 415	\$ 58,581
	2003	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ 13
		<u>\$ 59,771</u>	<u>\$ 60,042</u>	<u>\$ 119,813</u>
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE	2004	\$ 743,897	\$ 211,064	\$ 954,961
	2003	\$ 29,941	\$ 10,338	\$ 40,279
	2002	\$ 971	\$ 1,145	\$ 2,116
	Prior to 2001	\$ 660	\$ 1,218	\$ 1,878
		<u>\$ 775,469</u>	<u>\$ 223,765</u>	<u>\$ 999,234</u>
BOAT EXCISE	2004	\$ -	\$ 2,812	\$ 2,812
	2003	\$ 96	\$ 15	\$ 111
	2002	\$ -	\$ 106	\$ 106
		<u>\$ 96</u>	<u>\$ 2,933</u>	<u>\$ 3,029</u>
WATER				
	Rates	\$ 279,541	\$ 406,178	\$ 685,719
	Liens	\$ 12,838	\$ 4,014	\$ 16,852
	Penalties & Interest	\$ 227	\$ 140	\$ 367
		<u>\$ 292,606</u>	<u>\$ 410,332</u>	<u>\$ 702,938</u>
TAX TITLES		<u>\$ 7,505</u>	<u>\$ 151,207</u>	<u>\$ 158,712</u>
BETTERMENTS		<u>\$ 6,253</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,253</u>
PENALTIES & INTEREST		<u>\$ 25,388</u>	<u>\$ 65,909</u>	<u>\$ 91,297</u>
MUNICIPAL LIEN CERTIFICATES		<u>\$ 5,700</u>	<u>\$ 3,250</u>	<u>\$ 8,950</u>
TOTAL		<u><u>\$ 8,946,495</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,449,480</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 17,395,975</u></u>

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

For 2004, the total assessed taxable valuation of Hamilton is \$1,323,911,420 with a property tax levy of \$16,575,370. The fiscal year 2005 tax rate as certified by the Department of Revenue is \$12.52 up .04 from the previous year. There were 279 building permits issued in 2004 resulting in an additional \$207,537 in tax levy growth.

In 2004, the Board of Assessors completed an in-house interim year update of all property in the town of Hamilton as required by the Department of Revenue. Under Massachusetts's law, this Board is required to value all of Hamilton's 2778 properties at 100 percent of their full and fair cash valuation, thereby insuring an equitable distribution of the property tax levy. As a result of this revaluation, the town's average single-family valuation increased 9 percent to 484,000 dollars. More importantly, we believe that we have met our statutory obligation to re-establish proper assessment level and uniformity throughout the town of Hamilton. Final Department of Revenue certification of assessed valuations was granted in December and property tax bills were subsequently mailed at the end of December. The current valuation and levy percentages based upon property class are as follows:

Residential	1,262,268,700	95.34%
Commercial	51,058,200	3.86%
Industrial	678,700	.05%
Personal	9,905,820	.75%

In 2004, the Assessing Department completed the third year of a state-mandated data re-collection program. This process is an important component of maintaining the integrity of Hamilton's real property information database.

We would like to assure all property owners that the Board of Assessors will continue its effort to meet the challenge of maintaining equitable assessments in this rising real estate market.

Robert H. Trussell, Chairman

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health is responsible for the overall stewardship of the public health and environmental protection of the town. Responsibilities are defined both by local bylaws and state law. The Board promotes, enacts, and enforces all health and environmental laws, rules and regulations. Additionally the Board of Health conducts health clinics, participates in education programs wherever possible and administers the contracts for a food inspection program, a public health nurse and communicable disease follow-up program, and animal inspection services.

The Board consists of three members serving three-year terms in rotation. Allen Ikalainen served as Chairman through June, 2004. Stephen Druschel became chair, Elizabeth Bernick continued as a member and Julia Steeves was appointed as a Board member. John Jacobi is the Health Agent. Gail Messelaar continued as Administrative Assistant as well as Doris Cole as part-time Administrative Assistant. Barbara Ikalainen resigned as Animal Inspector in June, 2004 and Dyan Katz was nominated As Animal Inspector by the Board and approved by the State Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health and Dairying. Anne Jackman was reappointed as Assistant Animal Inspector.

In 2004 the Hamilton Board of Health has been pro-active in the review and formulation of a disaster plan in concert with the Department of Public Health and the Office of Domestic Preparedness. Hamilton is one of fifteen cities and town with the North Shore & Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition. The City of Salem is the host community for the coalition. The coalitions were created by the Department of Health in an effort to centralize command and control within specified areas of the Commonwealth. Distribution of Federal assistance in a disaster event will be concentrated within the host community and filtered down to each city and town within the coalition. The Hamilton Board of Health's mission is to provide local assistance to the inhabitants of the community during an event.

The Health Agent enforced Massachusetts Title V regulations for sewage disposal. This included many site visits to existing and proposed home sites, review and approval of plans, and the issuing of treatment and disposal system permits. Our role also includes the inspection of construction of the sewage systems and involvement in the permit process for work on existing and new homes.

Semi-annual food inspections were performed by Ernest Vieira at all permanent, limited and temporary establishments that sell and/or prepare food including the school cafeterias in the Hamilton-Wenham School District.

Partner's Home Care provided public health, preventative health and health promotion services to the residents of Hamilton. These included: tuberculosis screening; immunization against other communicable diseases; communicable disease follow-up by telephone and/or home; visits with completion of epidemiological survey; one time home visits to high risk mothers and their newborns; occasional home visits to assess an individual's health and safety and grief visits.

Three Influenza/pneumonia vaccination clinics were held by the Board of Health and Partners Home Care.

In May a rabies immunization clinic for dogs and cats was offered at the Town garage. The clinic was sponsored by the Veterinary Association of the North Shore. Gail Messelaar, Administrative Assistant, and part-time Administrative Assistant, Doris Cole provided assistance.

The Board cannot over emphasize the absolute need for dog and cat owners to obtain rabies vaccinations for their pets and revaccinations on the required schedule. Please have your cats and dogs vaccinated not only to protect their health but also to prevent rabies in humans, as pets are the bridge between ground animals and humans. Pets must be revaccinated within one (1) year of their initial vaccination and revaccinated as recommended by the Veterinarian or vaccine manufacturer thereafter.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Animal Health and Dairying requires all horses, ponies, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and flocks of poultry numbering twenty-five (25) or more to be inspected and an annual census completed. The Inspector of Animals conducted inspections of the animals and their housing conditions at fifty-nine (59) sites in Hamilton.

Beef Cows	2
Horses	301
Ponies	30
Donkeys	0
Mini Donkeys	14
Goats	4
Sheep	0
Swine	0
Poultry Flocks	0
Ratites	0
Game Birds	5
Waterfowl	6

During the year the Board performed the following reviews and issued the types and numbers of licenses listed below.

Disposal Works Construction (New)	6
Disposal Works Construction (Repair)	75
Disposal Works Construction (Renewal or Transfer)	2
Subdivision Review	0
Food Establishment	30
Temporary Food Establishment	8
Disposal Works Installers	46
Exams for Disposal Works Installers	5
Septage Pumpers	12
Portable Toilets	2
Keeping of Animals	41
Stables	41
Wells	5
Pool Permits	2
Recreational Camps	8
Tobacco Sales Permits	6

Numerous environmental and housing complaints were also investigated and properly handled in accordance with State regulations.

The Board also distributed the following number of doses of vaccines and biologics.

<u>Hep B</u>	<u>DTAP</u>	<u>IPV</u>	<u>Hib</u>	<u>MMR</u>	<u>DT</u>	<u>Td</u>	<u>PPV23</u>	<u>PCV7</u>	<u>DTAP-HEP B-IPV</u>
150	270	200	155	160	0	924	130	115	40

Total fees collected in calendar year 2004 were \$24,144.27 (Fees/Permits-\$26,113.25; Tobacco Sales Permits/Fines-\$150.00; Septic Loan Installments-\$4,199.27). These monies were turned over to the Town Treasurer.

Stephen Druschel, Chairman

SEALER OF WEIGHT AND MEASURES

All devices used to weigh or measure for commerce in the Town of Hamilton have been tested and sealed in accordance with state regulations. The Treasurer/Collector received all fees collected.

Business	Device	Revenue
G & M Motors	Gasoline Pumps	\$320
Brand Co	Scales	\$15
CVS	Scales	\$35
Family Medical Center	Scales	\$35
Meadowbrook Farms	Scales	\$20
Hamilton Convenience Store	Gasoline Pumps	\$160
Hungry Fox	Scales	\$10
Junction Ice Cream	Scales	\$60
Marko's Pizza	Scales	\$20
Oliver Gulf	Gasoline Pumps	\$240
Villager Market	Scales	\$120
Welsh & Lamson	Fuel Oil Trucks, Rack Test and Diesel Oil Dispensers	\$210

Robert D. Rose, Sealer

HAMILTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Board of the Hamilton Housing Authority is still on an active hunt for open space, so that several low income homes can be built, as the percentage of affordable income homes in the towns is very low. As of this date, our percent of affordable income homes is listed by the state as just under 3 percent. The state level required is set at ten percent

In other Housing business, the ongoing renovation of the kitchen units in the apartments at the Railroad Ave site was underway in the month of March. A planned project to outfit outside doors in each of the building with electric door locks for added protections for the tenants was delayed but should be completed in the near future.

The daily operation of the Housing Authority operated in excellent fashion due to Julie Martineau, director and members of her staff. The Board felt the move to hire the Ipswich Housing Agency to administer Hamilton's continued to work very well.

Board members made it a point to be active in promoting the Housing Units for folks of the Town. The Board attended meetings of the Council on Aging and participated in a two-town senior fair hosted by the League of Women Voters. If you are a senior citizen or have members of your family in this age bracket and are looking into future plans as to selling the house or whatever, call the Housing Office and ask for some information on coming to the Railroad Housing units.

Members of the Housing Authority are Leon Purington, Robert Fanning, Robert Poole, Jay Burnham, and Leigh Keyser, chairman.

Leigh M Keyser, Chairman

HANDICAP ACCESS COMMITTEE

The Winthrop School handicap ramp was redesigned and repaved, providing better access to the building.

A new desk for disabled visitors with business at Hamilton Town Hall was purchased. Also a phone connection has been installed. The desk is located just inside the building by the handicap access door. This will allow people to enter the building and use this desk to call for assistance from all departments of Town Hall.

We reviewed the initial prints for the construction of the expansion of the First Congregational Church. We proposed a few changes for access to the building and also for handicap accessible bathrooms.

David Cooper, Chairman

HAMILTON COUNCIL ON AGING

The Hamilton Council on Aging had a busy and successful year serving the senior community. A major accomplishment was the operational start-up of the Joint Hamilton-Wenham Councils on Aging Van Program in January 2004. This critical service provided local transportation options for Hamilton/Wenham seniors and handicapped residents to medical appointments, hospitals, shops, banks, congregate meal sites and more. Due to increased demand, the Hamilton-Wenham COA Van began operating five days a week beginning March 22, 2004. During the start-up year of 2004, a total of 581 Hamilton individuals utilized this important service.

The Hamilton Council on Aging, with the assistance of dedicated volunteers, increased our focus on communication by publishing and mailing a bi-monthly senior newsletter to over 800 head of household residents. In addition, the Council on Aging maintains an office at the former Hamilton Library with a 24 hour answering service. Telephone calls that we receive range from program reservations to requests for information and referral on elder service issues.

Hamilton seniors were able to choose from a wide variety of program offerings that included day trips to the Peabody Museum, New England Spring Flower Show, Spinneli's Mystery Show, The Rockettes Christmas Spectacular at the Wang Theatre, North Shore Music Theatre, Butterfly Place/Cracker Barrel Restaurant, Bull Run Restaurant/Olde Tyme Jazz Band," A Taste of Maine Double Lobster Bake", Cape Ann Lighthouse Cruise, Bourne Scallop Festival, and the Charles River Boat Cruise. Special events and educational forums were well attended and included Hamilton-Wenham Senior Coffee, Hamilton Housing Authority, Medicare and Social Security, Hamilton Assessors tax program, Ice Cream Social, and Winthrop Elementary School Museum Day. In addition, the Council on Aging held five special luncheons with Bingo at the senior center. Our "Stay Healthy" series was very popular and continues to grow. Our free Blood Pressure Clinic is held at the senior center on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, from 10am to 12 noon. During the past year, 43 Hamilton seniors attended the clinic on a regular basis. Barbara Rigol volunteered to lead a Low Impact Exercise Class for several weeks and Council members are working on expanding these "Stay Healthy" options for seniors. In December, COA Board members delivered holiday fruit baskets to 27 Hamilton residents over the age of 90 who live in their own homes.

The Hamilton Council on Aging has always functioned with the efforts of many volunteers. As the program continues to grow and serve the needs of our many senior residents, the Council on Aging welcomes the ideas, suggestions, and active participation of all Hamilton seniors.

Lindsey D. Snavelly, Senior Services Coordinator

**EASTERN ESSEX DISTRICT
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES**

This department is charged under Chapter 115 Massachusetts General Laws with providing services to veterans, their survivors and dependents. Principal workload under state law includes the administration of aid to veterans and dependents, which deals with the unpredictable variables of illness, unemployment, unemployability, labor disputes and the economy. Communities fund this program, which is subsequently 75% reimbursed the following fiscal year by the Commonwealth. This is a need-based program. The department conducts periodic comprehensive case reviews to insure no substantive facts have changed, while working to identify alternative or long-term solutions to individual circumstances. During the calendar year no Hamilton veterans/widows were on this program. Under state law the department also assists qualified veterans to obtain bonuses, and qualified veterans, widows and parents to obtain state annuities, property tax abatements, and other benefits.

The Veterans' Services program also mandates extensive interaction within the federal community, principally with the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their dependents in filing for pensions, service connected injury/illness compensation, dependency indemnity compensation for survivors, VA healthcare enrollment, insurance claims, decedent claims, and many other issues. Federal benefits processed by this department are paid directly to those eligible to receive the assistance or entitlement. In 2004 the VA sent \$472,560 to eligible recipients in Hamilton, of which the current staff is responsible for approximately \$160,000 dollars paid to or saved by those assisted in Hamilton.

Additionally, the department interacts within the federal community to correct military records, obtain needed documentation and insure veterans/dependents receive awards and recognition to which entitled. The VSO provided information, advice or assistance to 56 of the town's 434 *identified* veterans and 6 of the 82 *identified* veterans' widows during 2004. We also provide support and information assistance for National Guard and Reserves called up for service in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families.

The Director and the Assistant to the Director, Georgia Gadbois, advocate for veterans on issues at the local, state and federal level, interact with elected and appointed officials on issues, and work with local organizations in serving the community. Key state legislation passed in 2004 included an expanded definition of a veteran to include cold war veterans, and special license plates for veterans in receipt of the Distinguished Flying Cross. Federal legislation supported and passed included a significant increase in the Department of Veteran's Affairs budget, and the concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability pay.

The Eastern Essex District is composed of the Towns of Essex, Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Rowley, West Newbury and Wenham. A Board of Directors consisting of one selectman (or designee) from each town maintains oversight. Mr. William Bowler is the Hamilton member of the Board of Directors. Ms. Cheryl Booth, Treasurer for the Town of Hamilton, is also the District Treasurer.

**Terrance P. Hart
District Director**

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Hamilton Police Department has once again completed a successful year of professional service to the community. Our level of success is put forth for public scrutiny annually but is in fact measured by the members of the department on a daily basis. I am proud to recognize the department members for their efforts and for the outstanding level of service they provide each and every day of the year. The quality of life that has become the main stay of our community is greatly dependent on the level of expertise maintained by these officers.

The national emphasis on Homeland Security and Domestic Preparedness continues to be the driving force behind the present and future criteria for training and certification levels required for local police officers. The department strives to keep pace with these current trends despite the budgetary restrictions of which we are all too familiar. In addition, there remains the “business” of policing that existed prior to the advent of domestic terrorism. The level of calls for service answered by this department reached an all time high of just over 12,000 incidents. A large number of these calls may be classified as minor or routine in nature but they are all too often overshadowed by major crime offenses that require a large amount of department resources to investigate and successfully prosecute. Incidentally major crime investigations, which typically include assault, burglary and larceny, increased 6% over the previous year.

The opportunities for grant money from supplementary funding sources were greatly curtailed during 2004. This Department, like many others in the area, received very little funding from grant programs in comparison to years past. We were fortunate however to have received a share of the local Homeland Security funding, which permitted the purchase of 6 new portable radios and 1 radio base station. This is the first update on the portable or hand-held radios since 1995! One other funding source was acquired through a competitive bid process sponsored by the Massachusetts Governor’s Highway Bureau. This grant requires a three-tiered approach in which the Department becomes involved in enforcement, public education and equipment purchases that are directly related to increasing safety on the roadways. This has proven to be very successful for this department, as we have always been known for our dedication to traffic safety and enforcement. However both of these grants netted the department less than \$15,000.00.

As a whole, the Department is dedicated to the common philosophy that was set forth many years ago and remains the operating philosophy today; to be “Community Committed”. We are proud to serve the people of Hamilton and will continue to offer the highest level of professionalism possible.

Walter D. Cullen, Chief of Police

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hamilton Fire Department has the following apparatus available for service:

ENGINE 1	1996 Pierce Saber 1250 gpm pumper
ENGINE 2	1985 International S-1800/Ranger 1000 gpm pumper
ENGINE 3	2004 Pierce Saber 1500 gpm pumper
LADDER 4	1980 American LaFrance 100' Aerial Ladder
SQUAD 1	1991 Ford/Greenwood Forestry Truck (4X4)
MOBILE AIR UNIT 6	1994 Ford Air Supply Van
SQUAD 7	1995 Ford F-250 Pick-up (4X4)

The Fire Department responded to 579 incidents in 2004.

INCIDENTS 2004

Fire/Explosion	55
Rescue Call	114
Hazardous Condition	66
Service Call	143
Good Intent Call	29
False Call	155
Special Type/Complaint	1
Severe weather	6

Engine 3 was delivered last January. It took a little longer than usual to put it in service due to the extremely low temperatures last January. The Department has been trained in its operation and it is in service.

The Fire Department has applied for a \$50,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security to purchase new radios and upgrade the radio system. We cannot get parts for many of the radios we have now and they will not be compatible with the new mutual aid radio system.

We currently have three firefighters in the recruit program. They are doing very well and will be assets to the department. We are currently looking for a few more call firefighters. If anyone is interested and would like details, call the fire station.

We have been working with the Public Safety Building Committee on plans for a new building. The current building is too small and does not have enough room for apparatus, personnel, and storage. The current building also has many safety concerns.

The Fire Department's Squad truck is up for replacement this year. It is 15 years old and is having transmission problems and some rust problems.

The Fire Department currently has (4) fulltime firefighters which work during the day. The Department relies on call firefighters for sufficient help. The Fire Department is always there to help the citizens of Hamilton.

Philip W. Stevens, Jr. Fire Chief

HAMILTON-WENHAM COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The dispatchers at the Hamilton-Wenham Communications Center continue to proudly serve the citizens of both towns.

This year we spent a great deal of time planning for the technology updates for the coming year. As we move into the future, console rearrangements will be necessary to accommodate the new 9-1-1 equipment, an 800 MGZ radio, monitoring systems and a community notification system.

The 9-1-1 computers will continue to show caller information and will now give us the ability to locate cell phone callers. Many times, calls come from cell phones and the caller is unsure of his location. The new equipment will pinpoint the origin of the crisis and precious minutes will not be wasted trying to locate the emergency. All PSAPs (public safety answering points) will have installation by the end of 2006. The Statewide Emergency Telecommunications Board is overseeing the project and there is no cost to the towns for either equipment or installation, which are valued at over \$100,000.

Updates to the radio system are scheduled for 2005 and many hours of planning have been invested in this project. Once again, there is no cost to either town as it is being funded through a federal grant. Both Hamilton and Wenham fire departments co-operated on the writing of the grants. Together we are able to accomplish more.

After ten years of trying to secure funds for a community notification system, a Homeland Security grant has made this a reality. The Town of Ipswich bought the system a few years ago and generously offered to allow us to buy into their set-up. In the case of an emergency, residents of Hamilton and Wenham will be notified by a recorded phone message. A strict policy will be in place to assure the usage for only public safety emergencies. There will be a public education program planned for the spring.

Part of our commitment to the communities is education. We host school and scout groups to discuss when to call 9-1-1 and what resources are available. Public Safety Day is held in Hamilton each September to allow everyone to tour the communications center and see the police and fire vehicles. Please watch for the date in the fall.

Space continues to be problem for us. Our radio equipment should be in a controlled environment but is housed in an open stairway and the ambulance garage. The main components of the new 9-1-1 system will have to be housed in the janitor's closet, after pipes and walls are removed.

The level of co-operation between all departments in Hamilton and Wenham gets better each year. We try to maintain the best service possible for our towns while under budget constraints.

Anne Marie Cullen, Chief Dispatcher

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE

On December 23, 2002, the Public Safety Building Committee (PSBC) was appointed by the Hamilton Board of Selectmen to study and to propose new facilities for the Police, the Fire, and the Emergency Center. The Committee is comprised of Hamilton residents: Bob DeFelice, Dick Flynn, John Hale, Philip McCarthy, and Kalil Boghdan (Chairman).

The current public safety facility is: overcrowded; deteriorating; in violation of safety and occupancy codes. The PSBC feels strongly that it is time for the town of Hamilton to act positively on a new public safety facility. Delaying the construction of a new facility will only cost more money in the future due to inflation and escalating construction costs.

In 2004, the Town of Hamilton and the Town of Wenham studied the concept of regionalizing the public safety departments with each other. That independent study concluded that regionalizing the public safety departments would not save the towns money. Currently, Wenham is in the process of building a new police station in conjunction with a new town hall.

The current police and fire station, on Bay Road, was built in 1957. The population of Hamilton at that time was approximately 4,000 residents. In 1957, there were only two full time police officers and five reserve officers. There was no emergency center and there was no Police Department secretary. There were no full time firefighters. The Fire Department consisted of 25 call firefighters. There were fewer fire trucks and much smaller than the fire fighting equipment today.

In 1986, an attempt to renovate and add onto the current public safety facility was proposed, and this endeavor failed at the ballot. The cost of this project was 1.4 million dollars.

By 2002, the population of Hamilton increased to 8,300 residents, and another attempt to build a new public safety facility failed at the ballot. In 2002, the cost of a new police station and the cost of renovations to the fire station would have been 4.6 million dollars. At that time, as in the present, there are: 15 full time police officers, 10 reserve police officers, and a full time secretary for the Police Department; five full time emergency center dispatchers and five part time dispatchers; four fulltime firefighters, and 30 call firefighters.

It is expected that by the year 2020, the population of Hamilton will grow to 12,000 plus residents.

After many meetings, and with careful deliberations with the hired architect, four possible options for renovations and/or a new building were studied. Upon weighing the pros and cons of each of the options, it was unanimously decided that building a new public safety facility made the most sense from the standpoint of design and final costs.

All Public Safety Building Committee meetings are open to the public and your input and questions are welcome. Please contact a committee member through Town Hall (978-468-5572).

Kalil Boghdan, Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

HIGHWAY DIVISION

ROAD PROGRAM

Once again, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts did not fully subsidize its nominal amount of funding for our Chapter 90 monies. However, the DPW was able to conduct several road projects. This was made possible by the support of the community through the generous approval of the annual \$188,000.00 override and extending the program another additional year, keeping these projects on track.

The following roads have been completed:

Essex Street - Phase 3 & 4 - Alan Road to Appaloosa Lane and Echo Cove Road to the Essex Town Line were completely rebuilt. The road surface was mechanically milled down then a layer of 3" binder and 2" topcoat of bituminous asphalt was laid. In addition, Essex Street from Appaloosa Lane to Echo Cove Road, Moulton Street from Rt. 1-A to the Miles River Bridge and Woodbury Street (Rt. 22) were milled down 2" and then repaved.

Chebacco Road received a top coat of asphalt beginning at the old Town Beach and ending at house #390. Part of this project included the installation of a salamander tunnel by house #375 to help the amphibians on their journey to a nearby vernal pool.

The Department worked with contractors to rebuild, repave and install new parking spaces and sidewalks at Depot Square in conjunction with the sale and development of this former Town property. Not planned originally as a DPW project, the use of in-house labor and equipment saved a substantial amount of money involved in these projects.

Town Meeting was supportive in approving monies for repairs on the Highland Street Bridge. Engineering work has begun and we anticipate having all the stone work completed by the end of spring 2005.

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

Annual bids for Catch Basin Cleaning and Street Sweeping went out and the work was completed without incident. All our 746 catch basins were cleaned and 60 miles of roadway swept.

The work on the Town's drainage problems continued. The DPW worked on clearing and cleaning culverts around town and obtained several permits through the Town's Conservation Commission for various drainage problems. We still have several ongoing projects including repairing/replacing culverts and headwalls on Linden, Woodbury and Elm Street.

The DPW continued road shoulder work. It removed built up soils in some areas and added gravel to others, as well as cutting back brush and vegetation. Rather than subcontracting labor for line painting, the Highway personnel painted most of the traffic lines in town utilizing our own line painting machine. This allowed us to save money. Snow removal and sanding went smoothly, due to the dedication of our DPW personnel during inclement weather conditions.

As usual, the DPW had a busy year with tree work. We worked on 84 trees using both in-house and contracted labor. A large percentage of the Town's trees are maturing at the same time, therefore, the pace of work needed is escalating. There are also various diseases that shorten the life of trees such as elms, maples, ash and hemlocks. These species make up a large portion of our tree inventory. Due to funding problems, the DPW was unable to replace any of the trees it removed. Hopefully, we can plant several next year.

The opening up of the landfill to residents for the disposal of brush and organic debris continued to be in demand. Many residents took advantage of these weekend drop offs. The DPW delivered seven truckloads of chipped brush to Brick End Farm, a composting facility located on Highland Street. The DPW will schedule more weekend drop offs in 2005.

PARK DIVISION

Patton Park remained the main source of playing fields for the sport teams of the various Joint Recreation Programs. The continuous use of the park places a heavy burden on the parks condition but with our staff's diligence and materials purchased through the Joint Recreation Department's funds we continue to keep it in excellent shape.

The big project this year was the dredging of Weaver Pond. This project was completed by T Ford Company in a professional and efficient manner. The original contract was to remove 4,000 cubic yards of material. This estimate proved inadequate to complete the work and to bring the pond to a desirable condition. Through the efforts of the DPW, the support of the Finance Committee and the generosity of the T Ford Company, the contractor removed an additional 2,500 cubic yards at a minimal cost.

Although the DPW did not have the time or funding, we continued to try and improve the other two parks in Town (School Street and Cutler). This helped relieve Patton Park's "wear and tear" and makes School Street and Cutler Park much more appealing for neighborhood and public use.

Using in-house talent from the Highway Division the DPW was able to replace the leaking roof of the Park garage at a cost savings to the Town.

CEMETERY DIVISION

The Cemetery remained in great condition. The Cemetery Foreman was kept busy mowing well into what is normally planting and pruning season. We continued our fight with the Japanese Beetle grubs by using biological means and not employing chemical pesticides, with positive results. It is this type of care and dedication that illustrates the fine condition of the Cemetery.

The Cemetery conducted the following business:

Sale of Lots: \$10,950.00
Perpetual Care: \$12,700.00
Openings and Foundations: \$19,410.00

The Cemetery Department also created a site, solely for cremation burials. This type of lot has become increasingly popular. If you would wish to purchase a lot, contact the Department of Public Works office. Lots are available to residents or former long-time residents at the following rates:

Cremation Lot: \$450.00 (6)
Standard Single Grave Lot: \$450.00
Standard Four Grave Plot: \$1,450.00

I am sad to announce that **Clayton Burton** (aka "Matty") a long time employee of the Cemetery Division, passed away this winter. He worked as a full and part-time employee for the Town for 53 years. During that time, he rarely missed a day of work. His dedication, consistency, quiet demeanor and personality will be greatly missed by all DPW staff.

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

Once again I would like to thank the residents for their support at Town Meeting in allowing us to upgrade and maintain our fleet of vehicles. Although our purchases have been reduced due to budget cuts, we were able to replace our oldest six wheel dump truck. This will allow us to better maintain the roads during snow storms by minimizing break downs.

Our fuel system passed its annual inspection. The new computerized leak detection and fuel-dispensing system worked well with no problems to report.

SANITATION

The Town continues its curbside pick-up contract with Hiltz Disposal Services which includes rubbish, recycling and leaf pick-up for our Town.

Our “Pay as You Throw” metals, tires, TV’s, computer monitors, fluorescent lights and refrigerator programs were very successful this year. The DPW was able to recycle these materials, at no cost to the general taxpayers. The individuals utilizing this service basically pay for it. We encourage our no cost drop-off of cardboard and nickel/cadmium batteries at Town Hall. There is also a drop-off point at the Town Clerk’s office, Building Inspector’s Office or DPW Office for mercury thermostats or any mercury-containing product at no cost. The DPW provides a thermometer exchange program. Citizens may exchange mercury thermometers for electronic read thermometers. I feel it is important to recycle/reuse as much as possible, both for an environmental and economical standpoint. After September, 2005, the Town will no longer be under the current restrictive solid waste contract. This will allow the Town to be much more efficient with our refuse recovery and recycling efforts. It is the habit practices we adopt now that will help us recycle better in the future. Recycling bins for curbside pickup are available at Town Hall for new residents or new participants wishing to get involved with the recycling program.

Our refuse disposal and recycling figures for 2004 were as follows:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Municipal Household Waste:	3172 Tons	3262 Tons
Commingled Curbside Recycling:	636.68 Tons	642.62 Tons
Leaf Collection and Composting:	90 Tons	75 Tons
All Metals:	158.25Tons	202.14 Tons
Tires:	234	180
Household Hazardous Waste:	179	130
Corrugated Cardboard:	11.48 Tons	11.19 Tons
TV and Computer Monitors:	420	450
Nickel/ Cadmium Batteries – 5 gallon pail	1	1
Mercury – 5gallon pail	1	1

The Town’s production of waste dropped and recycling increased, even as our population grew. This demonstrates the community’s commitment to recycling and other environmentally sound practices. We held a Household Hazardous Waste day event in conjunction with the Town of Wenham this fall with much success.

WATER DIVISION

The Gordon “Tiny” Thompson Filtration Plant operated well, producing several hundred thousand gallons of clean water per day. The filtration process removes almost all metals from the water, which has greatly improved the water quality in town. There is still work to do within the distribution system, such as hydrant flushing, main installation, and main replacement to improve the water that is supplied to some parts of town. In general, our water quality continues to improve.

Renovation work continued at the School Street and Patton well buildings. These two sites will augment the water supply from the Idlewood well field when needed and act as a backup for emergency situations.

After some negotiations, we were granted temporary permission from DEP to operate our deep, (120') well at the Idlewood wellfield, (the Plateau Well). The water quality from this well is superior to the existing wells at this location. The addition of this well will allow us to use fewer chemicals and less power for water treatment and not place such a direct burden on the water going to Idle Wild Brook. The building housing the pumping equipment was constructed by Highway Division personnel, saving the water customers thousands of dollars. We continue to push the DEP through political and legal channels to allow us to operate our Plateau well and our well fields in a reasonable and unburdened fashion using scientific data.

Our pumpage is down from last year even with our modest population increase and also our use per capita is down from last year. This illustrates the commitment our community has to protect its well fields, sub basins and the Ipswich River Basin. We encourage our customers to conserve wherever possible. This practice is appropriate environmentally as well as being financially advantageous.

2000 180,730,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: 60.9 Highest daily usage: 924,000 on July 13

2001 250,839,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: 84.5 Highest daily usage: 1,564,000 on Aug. 8

2002 209,173,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: 69.9 Highest daily usage: 1,102,000 on June 16

2003 239,777,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: 59 Highest daily usage: 820,000 on Aug. 26

2004 229,647,000 = Avg. GPD/PP: 50 Highest daily usage: 950,000 on June 24

GPD/PP = Gallons per day / per person / using census numbers.

Hydrant flushing remained a priority and as anticipated was accomplished this spring and fall. Although the filtration plant is producing clean water, we must continue to perform this task until the mains are free from iron and manganese deposits. There after, we will flush dead end mains annually to assure essential water circulation and quality.

The Water Division replaced services on Essex and Bridge Street in anticipation of the upcoming paving projects. They also replaced, installed, and or repaired 15 hydrants, 24 services and 62 meters. Work is still in process with Manchester by-the-Sea to tie into their main on Chebacco Road to allow for one more inter-town tie-in. This will enable greater fire protection to our residents on that end of town. On Boston Avenue, we replaced the 2" line feeding residents with a 6" main and a fire hydrant. We also started replacing the 2" and 4" mains on Elliot and Pleasant Street with a 6" main and hydrant this fall. We hope to complete this project by the end of spring 2005.

Due to personnel cuts and our heavy work load, we were unable to read some meters this fall, therefore, estimated bills were sent out. In the near future, we will be installing radio read meters to better manage our manpower and to bill on a quarterly basis, instead of a semiannual basis. When completed, this will allow us to be able to read the Town in 1 day with one person rather than 3 weeks to 4 weeks with 3 people.

The Asbury Camp Meeting Corporation had several hundred feet of 6" main and hydrants installed on their property, creating a looped water system to allow for better fire protection and water quality to their residents. In conjunction with this and the Depot Square project, the Water division installed three insertion valves so as to be able to isolate water mains without interrupting water supply to our customers.

Our Water Division field personnel, as well as other DPW employees, continue to meet the needs for the ever-changing technical field of water treatment by taking exams, attending seminars and receiving advanced Drinking Water Certification Certificates.

It is my pleasure to submit this Annual Report of the Department of Public Works to the honorable Board of Selectmen and the citizens of the Town of Hamilton. If any citizen is in need of more information or has questions or comments concerning the DPW, please feel free to call us at 468-5580 or 5581.

Steven T. Kenney, Director of Public Works

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Hamilton Conservation Commission's primary task is the administration and enforcement of the state Wetlands Protection Act (Ch. 131 §40) and the Town's Conservation By-Law, Chapter 17. The Commission also seeks to fulfill its mandate by funding environmental education programs in the regional school system and by organizing and publicizing various conferences and events that seek to protect open space and inform residents of the value of preservation of woodlands and scenic areas as well as trail access and management.

Conservation Commission jurisdiction and procedure:

The Commission's jurisdiction includes all proposed changes in land use which will occur within defined wetlands or within 100 feet of the defined edge of wetlands, or within 200 feet of the perennial streams and rivers within the borders of the Town. The Commission considers applications (known as "Requests for Determination" and also "Notices of Intent") for work in these areas and holds site walks to evaluate the conditions at the work area. The Commission then conducts public hearings or public meetings to decide if a permit (either a "Negative Determination" or an "Order of Conditions") shall issue. Once a project is completed, the Commission holds another site walk to establish that the project was finished in the same manner as it was originally proposed and that no damage to resource areas has occurred. A Certificate of Compliance is then issued and the process is complete. The Commission also investigates violations of the Wetlands Act and local Conservation By-Law and the Commission issues Enforcement Orders or Violation Notices if appropriate.

2004 Special Projects and Issues:

The Commission undertook several initiatives in 2004. First, the installation of the salamander tunnel crossing beneath Chebacco Road has been completed. The first seasonal migration, with the tunnel in use, of the salamanders should occur in early 2005. The DPW and the Commission jointly funded this project and will continue to work together to gather data as this new system develops.

Second, the Commission has continued to work with local non-profit groups to address the ongoing beaver flooding issues in town. Several water level control devices (known as beaver deceivers) have been installed in Town. These devices, when installed properly, have negligible impact on beaver habitat and can substantially lower water levels. The Commission encourages land owners who have dams and are directly impacted by beaver flooding to contact the Commission office for direction on how to apply for permission to install a deceiver.

Third, the Commission participated in the process of reviewing options for mosquito control in town. Along with the Selectmen and interested residents, the Commission looks forward to reviewing new approaches to insect control that present no significant risk in their use. The Commission emphasizes to the Town that this work is very much in the early stages and they seek participation from any group or individual interested.

Fourth, the Commission's Open Space Committee is now up and running with several new members and a New Chairperson, Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld. The Committee continues to work towards revising the Hamilton Open Space Plan and they hope to have the revised plan finalized, approved and in place in 2005.

Fifth and finally, the Commission again arranged and ran the Town's celebration of National Trails Day with a cookout and events at Bradley Palmer State Park. This has become an annual highlight for the residents and the Commission, but has recently fallen short of funds. The Commission seeks small donations from individuals and firms to underwrite the minimal costs of presenting this event.

Education Program

The Commission once again funded, with the participation of private donors in Wenham covering the Wenham share of the costs, an Environmental Education program for the students in almost all grade levels in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District. The program is designed and run by the Massachusetts Audubon Society and it is subject to in-depth review and amendment by the Commission annually. The Commission continues to enthusiastically support and promote this program.

2004 Filings and Other Regulatory Decisions

- 18 Requests for Determination
- 17 Orders of Conditions
- 2 Amended Orders of Conditions
- 2 Modifications of Orders of Conditions
- 9 Enforcement Orders and Violation Notices
- 4 Extensions
- 15 Certificates of Compliance
- 2 Conservation Restrictions Approved
- 1 Order of Resource Area Delineation
- 1 Emergency Certification

The seven regular members of the Conservation Commission are John Hamilton, Michele Stecyk, Virginia Cookson, Robert Cronin, Peter Dana, Paula Kent, and Camilla Rich. The two associate members are John Rhoads and John Hendrickson. If you have questions, please contact the James Hankin, Coordinator at 978-468-5583.

John Hamilton and Michele Stecyk, Co-Chairs

ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

The past year has been a very productive one for the Road Safety Committee. Our efforts have been concentrated in three areas.

We have made substantial progress on the Woodbury Street pathway project. The project will be completed in two phases. Phase One will cover that portion of the roadway from Bridge Street to the Gordon Conwell Seminary side entrance on Woodbury Street. Phase One will cover that portion of the project from the side entrance of the seminary to Essex Street. Surface preparation is complete on the privately owned portions of Phase One and that portion is ready for paving. Those portions on the public right of way will be prepared in coming months and all paving of Phase One should be completed in calendar year 2005. The committee wishes to express its gratitude to the Christopher Rich Memorial Trust and to the Rich family for their generous contributions of money, equipment, supplies and time and energy. The contributions of the Rich family and the Trust have saved the Committee valuable financial resources and have speeded this project along.

The Road Safety Committee has worked closely with the Open Space Committee in the quintennial update of the town's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Road Safety Committee's master plan for safe bicycle and other alternative transportation plays an important part of the ultimate open space plan for our town. The committee would like to thank John Rhoads of the Open Space Committee and John Hendrickson of the Road Safety Committee for their very substantial efforts in bringing the Open Space Plan and the Road Safety Master Plan up to date.

Finally, the committee has worked closely with the Board of Selectmen in designing and implementing the plan for a complete sidewalk connection from Asbury Street to Route 1A along Highlands Street connecting with existing Wenham resources. This finally makes all of Highland and Linden Streets safely assessable to Asbury Street and the Wenham village center areas.

The success of the Road Safety Committee's activities has depended in large part upon public input. The committee encourages all citizens of Hamilton to contact the committee and its members with any items of concern about transportation safety in our town.

Brad Kimball, Chairman

CHEBACCO WOODS LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee's biggest project in fiscal '04 was to deal with the various encroachments on the property. It appears that all the minor encroachments, primarily the storage of debris and building materials, have been addressed by respective abutters. With the assistance of various local environmental groups, the Towns of Hamilton and Manchester-by-the Sea are still dealing with the two major encroachments. The solution to the one involving a sewage system partially built on the property has been approved by the two Towns; however, resolution of both problems will still take considerable time and effort.

Sue McLaughlin and occasionally Ginny Cookson continue to conduct monthly trail hikes for the public.

The second amendment to the Land Management Plan was approved May 10, 2004. Formerly, the appointee on the Committee representing each Conservation Commission had to be a current Commissioner; Conservation Commissioners already put in considerable hours on the Commission itself.

A Hamilton Boy Scout, David Smolinsky, is earning his Eagle badge by locating by compass and GPS all boundary markers installed by Hancock Survey Associates. He is also replacing faded or stolen trail markers.

On several occasions, properly insured personnel from Essex County Trail Association have removed fallen trees and branches from various trails at no cost to the towns.

Sue McLaughlin has been asked to revisit the major trail maintenance project to be funded by the DEM grant received by the Committee in 2002. Delay in implementing the project has been caused by weather conditions as well as time lost dealing with encroachments.

The sign at the main entrance to the property was lost to vandalism. A new sign was built and donated by Bob Shaw of Wenham.

Fiscal '04 budget totaled \$1,600 to be provided by both towns. As of 12/31/2004, the Committee had spent approximately \$1,375, for additional work by Hancock Survey, new maps from Cricket Press, a notice in Community Newspapers and ordinary supplies.

R.C. Smith, Chairman

PLANNING BOARD

ORGANIZATION

Susie Richey and Zach Bensley were each re-elected to a five year term in May. Rick Mitchell and Marc Johnson remained as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively. Zach Bensley resigned from the Board in October. We thank Mr. Bensley for his service as a former chairman and dedicated member for many years.

APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED PLANS

..185/189 Woodbury Street, lot line reconfiguration, no new lots created
..45 Bay Road, Depot Square lot. Plan filed to show current lot configuration.
..15/17 Hamilton Avenue, former railroad parcel combined with existing lot, no new lots created
..Winthrop Street, reconfiguration of lots, no new lots created
..404 Bridge Street, land swap to accommodate relocation of common driveway, no new lots created
.. 435 Cutler Road, one new lot created
.. 776 Bay Road, one new lot created
..56/42 Cutler Road, separated two existing dwelling on one lot into two lots, one new lot created
..635 Highland Street, one new lot created

DEFINITIVE SUBDIVISION PLANS

No Definitive Subdivision Plans were submitted in 2004.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

For Site Plan Review, the Planning Board reviewed each application below, and considered input from town officials, departments, and residents. As required by the Zoning Bylaw, the Board made recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

..45 Walnut Road, for Depot Square lot and new building. The Planning Board reviewed several site plans as the project progressed.
.. 308-388 Bay Road, Patton Park, for additional lighting at the concession stand.
..775 Bay Road, Hamilton-Wenham Regional Middle/High School, Abbreviated Site Plan Review for a new control shed for the wastewater treatment system.
..775 Bay Road, Hamilton-Wenham Regional Middle/High School, for four light poles to illuminate playing fields.
.. 624 Bay Road, First Congregational Church, for a new Fellowship Hall and renovations to existing Church and to the site. An all-board site plan hearing was held, and the Planning Board made recommendations following that hearing.
..125 Willow Street, Verizon Communications, Inc., to build an accessory structure to

house a new backup generator.

SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS

..358-362 Chebacco Road, for a Common Driveway Special Permit. The Planning Board approved the application with conditions.

ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The Planning Board submitted the following amendments for approval at Town Meeting: *Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development*, (OSFPD) to replace the existing *Flexible Plan Subdivisions* Bylaw, and Definitions relative to OSFPD. A Citizens' Petition had been submitted, but was withdrawn from Town Meeting Floor. The OSFPD amendment was not approved, and the Planning Board promised to return with an amended version.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

In February of 2004, the Planning Board voted to adopt the Master Plan. Public officials and interested residents had worked on the development of the plan for more than two and one-half years. Following the adoption of the Master Plan, the Planning Board continued on to the next step, the Implementation Phase, of master planning. The OSFPD zoning bylaw amendment was the first initiative of the Implementation Plan. The Planning Board held several all-board meetings, open to the public, to discuss many revisions to the OSFPD bylaw prior to re-submitting it to the Board of Selectmen in December for inclusion on the January 2005 warrant. The Board also began drafting an Inclusionary Housing Bylaw.

The Planning Board wishes to thank Judi Barrett of Community Opportunities Group, Inc., for her many hours working with the board on zoning and planning initiatives, and Tim Purinton, Outreach Director at Mass. Audubon, for his support and input to the Board.

The second initiative was the formation of three committees recommended in the Master Plan: The Agricultural and Equestrian Committee, Economic Development Committee, and the Housing Partnership Committee. The Planning Board was instrumental in helping to write the descriptions and responsibilities of the committees, and recommending members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The report of each committee can be found separately in this Annual Report.

The Planning Board continues working with the Economic Development Committee as the Committee drafts a new zoning bylaw amendment and with the Housing Partnership Committee as they study methods to create affordable housing in Hamilton.

The Board continued to work with the Town Administrator and DPW Director on the Depot Square parcel. Planning Coordinator Jean Nelson wrote and filed the application

to the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction to receive approval to build on former railroad land. Members of the board had input into the site plan, visited the site and met with the new buyer on several occasions, and recommended landscaping for the final design.

In April, the Planning Coordinator applied for a grant of services for a Heritage Landscape Inventory. The grant was approved and consultants contracted by Department of Conservation and Recreation and Essex National Heritage Commission came to Hamilton in October and met with a group to discuss important historic, cultural, scenic, and landscape features of the Town. A report from the consultants is forthcoming.

Our Master Plan Consultant, Judi Barrett of Community Opportunities Group, Inc., recommended that the town adopt Comprehensive Permit Guidelines. Barrett worked with interested public officials and residents to develop such guidelines. After drafting and much discussion and input, the Planning Board adopted guidelines in May of 2004.

The Planning Board meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, with the exception of an abbreviated schedule in the Summer. All meetings are open, and the public is welcome to attend.

Rick Mitchell, Chairman

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Housing Partnership Committee (HPC) was formed in November, 2004. The Board of Selectmen appointed five citizens to the Committee: David Carey, Sara del Rio, David Gaquin, William Gavin and Robert Poole.

The mission of the HPC is to promote the creation of affordable housing by working with 40B developers and other sources of affordable housing, to meet the needs of Hamilton. The HPC contracted with Community Opportunities, Inc. to assist in the above stated mission and to evaluate the feasibility of creating a housing production plan.

The consultant completed the evaluation and determined that creating a conventional housing production plan is not feasible due to the magnitude of the affordable housing shortfall relative to the Chapter 40B 10% standard requirement.

The HPC established liaisons with the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission and the Zoning Board. The HPC also proposed a joint venture with a Hamilton resident to use a town-owned lot to develop a one or two unit affordable property.

David S. Carey, Chairperson

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

In March of 2004 the Selectmen appointed the Hamilton Economic Development Committee (EDC). This action was in response to a request from the Hamilton Planning Board based on the recommendations adopted in the Revised Hamilton Master Plan (2004). Five members were appointed: Charles Chivakos, William Gisness, Peter Gourdeau, Carl Swanson and Peter Twining (Chair).

The purpose of the EDC is to implement two of the key recommendations from the Master Plan. They were to promote the expansion of the town's tax base and net property tax revenue through appropriate land use and development, limiting the burden on town services and in order to substantially slow the growth of the tax burden on homes.

The Committee set three initial priorities for its initial work. They are: (1) the evaluation of the economic feasibility of developing and installing shared septic facilities for some or all of the Hamilton downtown business district in order to enhance land values and spur business; (2) the creation and adoption of a planned mixed use by-law to permit limited office and age-restricted housing and nursing home development in the town; and (3) the exploration of the re-development of the Hamilton Landfill. These projects all advance the established goals of the Committee. At the end of 2004, work on all priorities was underway.

The EDC wishes to thank the Planning Board and Selectmen for their active support of its work. 2005 looks to be a very important for the EDC in all phases of its work.

Peter P. Twining, Chairman

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Hamilton Historic District Commission met on an as needed basis in 2004. The commission reviewed the following matters:

The Commission worked out a compromise decision on the First Congregational Church's application for a certificate of appropriateness. A conditional certificate was issued and the Commission is awaiting the final drawings from the applicant.

Thomas P. Catalano, Chairman

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals heard a total of Twenty Three (23) petitions, several with multiple requests, in 2004. A summary of the Board's actions are as noted below:

(8) Petitions for Site Plan Review: Conditions	Approved with
(1) Petition for Abbreviated Site Plan Review: Conditions	Approved with
(7) Petitions for Extension/Alteration of a Non-Conforming Use: Conditions	Granted with
(1) Petition for Extension/Alteration of a Non-Conforming Use:	Granted
(1) Petition for Special Permit for Temporary Living Area: Conditions	Granted with
(1) Petition for a Special Permit Conditions	Granted with
(1) Appeal of a Decision of the Building Inspector:	Decision of the Building Inspector Upheld
(1) Petition for Parking Variance: Conditions	Approved with
(1) Petition for Side Yard Setback Variance: Prejudice	Withdrawn without
(1) Petition for Frontage and Lot Area Variances: Prejudice	Withdrawn without
(2) Petitions for Frontage Variances: Prejudice	Withdrawn without
(1) Petition for Frontage, Lot Width, and Lot Area Variances:	Variances Denied

The Zoning Board of appeals also participated in the following items during the year:

- The Zoning Board in conjunction with the Planning Board, the Historic Commission Board, and the Board of Selectmen, participated in the first joint-board hearing held in Hamilton for Site Plan Review of the property owned by the First Congregational Church of Hamilton located at 624 Bay Road.
- The Zoning Board reviewed and made recommendations to the Planning Board regarding proposed zoning by-law changes and additions.
- The Zoning Board reviewed and made recommendations to private citizens regarding proposed citizen petitions to changes in the zoning by-law.

Beth Ganister, Chair

INSPECTION DEPARTMENTS

BUILDING

	TOTAL PERMITS ISSUED	TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	TOTAL PERMIT FEES
Mixed Use Structure	1	\$309,120.00	\$3,110.00
New Dwellings	2	537,890.00	4,270.00
Garages/Barns & Sheds	21	514,630.00	2,834.00
Decks/Porches	31	305,985.00	2,275.00
Inground & Above Pools	12	201,300.00	1,020.00
Residential Additions/Alterations	101	6,939,700.00	64,649.00
Non-Residential Additions/Alterations	17	907,570.00	4,978.00
Siding/Windows/New Roof/Re-Roof	72	682,879.00	4,925.00
Demolitions	5	49,000.00	305.00
Signs	4	7,300.00	125.00
Tents	7	23,195.00	325.00
Pellet/Woodstoves	6	9,050.00	150.00
TOTALS:	279	\$10,487,619.00	\$88,966.00

Charles Brett
Inspector of Buildings

PLUMBING

	PERMITS ISSUED
Dwellings:	3
Additions/ Alterations:	80
Barns/Garages:	2
Miscellaneous permits issued*:	41
Total Permits Issued	126

*Includes: hot water tanks, backflow preventers, floor drains, water piping and other miscellaneous fixtures.

William C. Thomas, Jr. Plumbing Inspector

ELECTRICAL

	PERMITS ISSUED
New Dwellings	4
Additions/ Alterations	106
Garages/Barns	9
Pools/Hot Tubs	10
Wells/Septic Pumps	5
Service/Temp. Services	41
Water Heater/Boiler/Burners/AC	5
Alarm Systems	26
Outlets/Breakers/Generators	22
Demolition	1
Total Permits Issued:	229
Robert B. Brown, Jr., Electrical Inspector	

GAS

	PERMITS ISSUED
Dwellings	1
Additions/ Alterations	8
Barns/Garages	2
Miscellaneous permits issued*	125
Total Permits Issued	136

*These permits include fireplace inserts, ranges, heating boilers, furnaces, water heaters, dryers, direct vent heaters, pool heaters, and other miscellaneous fixtures.

William C. Thomas, Jr., Gas Inspector

HAMILTON-WENHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Fiscal year 2004-2005 has been one of continued success and growth for the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library. Citizens from both communities (as well as many others) have enjoyed the library and its many resources, and it seems to be busy at all times of the day and evening. The public meeting rooms are a real resource to the community and are in constant use. Some of the groups using the meeting rooms have included girl scouts, Ipswich River Watershed Association, Cantaemus, the Wenham Planning Board, the Tolerance Committee, Open Road Theater and The League of Women Voters.

The Library has also seen changes in leadership this year. In October, 2004 Director Jim McShane submitted his resignation. The Trustees hired Shirley Raynard to serve as Interim Director while a search was undertaken. Shirley brought great energy, experience and a sense of humor to the Library, which operated efficiently under her leadership. A search committee comprised of citizens from both Hamilton and Wenham, as well as Jeff Chelgren, Wenham Town Administrator, interviewed a number of candidates. The Trustees, upon the recommendation of the committee, hired Jan Dempsey to serve as the new Director. Jan brings a wealth of experience and energy to the job. We welcome her to the community.

Under all three directors the staff continued to perform at a high level of competence. We are fortunate to have a professional and devoted staff who are always willing to assist with research projects, suggest reading material and encourage use of the library. Despite being stretched to the limit they offered many programs, including a Mardi Gras during school vacation week, a monthly Koffee Klatch, an anime drawing workshop, author lectures and book groups. In the month of January alone, 15,989 items were checked out of the Library.

Several new board members were elected this year. Doris Gallant, who had previously been elected to fill an unexpired term, was elected from Wenham to fill a three year term. She brings her expertise as the former Director of the Wenham Library. Kevin Sperry joined us briefly, having been elected in Hamilton by write-in ballot. Unfortunately his professional commitments necessitated his resignation this winter.

The Friends of the Hamilton-Wenham Library have continued to be of great assistance and support to the library and its mission. They have funded countless programs, purchased equipment and furniture and paid for our ever popular museum passes. We are thankful for their enthusiasm and support.

The library's website at www.hwlibrary.org continues to be a very useful resource, providing information about programs, giving access to the data base and enabling citizens to order books online, as well as ask reference questions from the comfort of your own home. A great deal of effort goes into this on a daily basis, and

makes the library accessible to nearly everyone. Additionally, a monthly newsletter of library events is published and distributed. A number of talented local artists have shown their work at the library this year and the Wenham Museum also has a display area in the library.

The trustees appreciate the support of the community and encourage everyone to come in and enjoy the library as often as possible. It's a busy place with lots going on. Come in to read the paper, find a good book or video or participate in one of our many programs!

Wendy Waller Daynes, Chair

HAMILTON-WENHAM RECREATION BOARD

Continuing our commitment to facility improvements, the Board worked with the Cutler School to hot top their playground surface, installed a basketball hoop and new lines at the Buker School playground. We are continuing to work with the High School regarding the renovation to the school's playing fields.

On the program side of our mission, new programs included craft and movement classes for pre-schoolers, rock climbing and a baseball-pitching clinic for youth participants.

Our wish list still includes a skateboard park, however an appropriate location has not been selected by the Selectmen.

Many thanks to the Youth Sports Organizations for their continued support in working to help maintain our athletic fields. The Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Board is made of six members from the two Towns, including Bob Kerrigan, Dennis Curran, Renee LaForce-MacDonald, David Parry, Adam Teal, and Lindle Willnow. Please contact Maggie Whitesell, Director of the Recreation Department or her assistant Diane Brown at 978 468-2178, if you have any questions.

Bob Kerrigan, Chairman

HAMILTON-WENHAM VAN SERVICE

The Hamilton-Wenham Van service began operating in January 2004. After a relatively slow start, ridership literally took off with usage growing each month. Seniors of both Towns have availed themselves of transportation to medical appointments at doctor offices, Beverly Hospital, and Lahey Clinic. Trips to banks, hairdressers, food stores and shops provided an invaluable service for many users. Drivers reported positive feedback, including comments that the van is a lifeline to the community, especially during our long New England winters.

The van service increased from three to five days and began operating at an hour earlier, within a few months. In addition, the Hamilton-Wenham Rotary Club organized monthly Saturday mall trips, staffed and arranged with Rotarian volunteers!

The following Mission Statement is deeply rooted in a philosophy common among and shared by the staff: The purpose of the Hamilton-Wenham Van program is to provide transportation services that will not only enrich the lives of our senior population but allow them to maintain a sense of independence as well.

John Marks, Van Coordinator

HAMILTON-WENHAM CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council awarded slightly more than \$4,000 in state funds for the year 2005 to local artists and performers in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences. The ten-member Council strives to select events that will enrich and appeal to all sectors of the community. There were 24 applications for grants this year. Whole or partial funding was given to 11, a sampling of which following:

Bessie Buker	Museum of Fine Arts (Pass Grant)
HW Public Library	Alexander the Jester
Open Road Theater	"Robin Hood"
John Root	Senior Citizen Concert
Sundays in Patton Park	Summer Concerts
Tre's, NS Baroque Ensemble	Concert at Wenham Museum
Michael Tougias	"Night of the Blizzard"
Veterans for Peace	Annual Peace Poetry
Winthrop School	Poetry Alive

Residents of Hamilton and Wenham with an interest in the arts may want to consider applying for a position on the Council. Council members serve three-year terms and are appointed by the Boards of Selectmen. There are positions open on the Board for the coming year.

Joanne Jones and Chris Eaton, Co-Chairpersons

HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT

I am pleased to present 2004-2005 Annual Report for the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District. As you read the school reports, you will note that the strength of our school district is in the quality of our students, our faculty, our support staff, our school leadership, and our two communities.

During the 2004-2005 school year, the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District (HWRSD) had an enrollment totaling 2205 students with 981 in the elementary grades Pre-Kindergarten through grade five, 511 in the middle school grades six through eight, and 713 in the high school grades nine through twelve. The school district goal is to provide an engaging and comprehensive curriculum that challenges all students and raises their achievement level. Our students must meet not only our own local learning standards, but also the learning standards of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and those of colleges across the country.

To realize the HWRSD goal, teams of teachers and principals work diligently to strengthen the academic program for higher student achievement by embedding all state framework requirements within a strong District curriculum. Through state and federal grants and the generosity of the Hamilton and Wenham Education Fund, teachers availed themselves of quality staff development programs to ensure successful implementation of programs. Through the dedication, commitment, and caring of our teachers and support staff, Hamilton and Wenham students were recognized for their achievements in the academics, arts, athletics, and activities during the 2004-2005 school year. Our elementary students participated in artists in residence program; our middle schools students received awards for their achievements in math team, college bowl, and band competitions as well as the Boston Globe Art Awards; and our high school students received awards at the local and state level in history and science, the New England Drama Festival, Boston Globe Key Art Awards, District band and chorus, Massachusetts All-State Band and Cape Ann League athletic titles including first in football and swimming while the girls' basketball team advancing to the state semi-finals.

The May 2004 MCAS scores reveal that Hamilton-Wenham student scores are above the state average in all four subject areas tested (*see Director of Curriculum's report for detail*). Every member of the Class of 2005 has passed both the English and math sections of the MCAS which will enable them to graduate in June. In the area of college admission test scores, 84% of HW Regional High School students took the SAT I with an average score of 1118 (Verbal - 561 and Math - 557). Sixty-five students took eighty-three Advanced Placement examinations in Calculus, English Literature, European History and U.S. History, and achieved an average score of 3.9 out of 5.0. The Class of 2004 had 1 finalist, 2 semi-finalists and 9 commended students recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

In December 2003, the H-W Regional School District and the Towns of Hamilton and Wenham formed the Hamilton, Wenham and Regional School District Budget Process Committee (BPC). The goals of the BPC are to (1) foster a more open and accessible budget process, (2) recommend budget process changes as needed and (3) develop a communication plan regarding the budgets for the public. I believe that the successful passage of the FY 05 school budget for \$20,510,326 and the Proposition 2 ½ Override for \$836,730, was due to the

commitment made by the towns and the school district to develop our budgets with much more collaboration that produced a consensus-driven result.

The full funding of the FY 05 budget request and override enabled the District to take a small step forward in balancing our curriculum between the subject-centered and student-centered needs of our students at all three levels. It represented a small step – but a vital one – towards restoring critically important school programs that have had to cut over the past two years. The FY 05 budget included no new programs or non-mandated staff, but it did check further erosion of the educational programs for which our District is recognized and valued. The FY 05 budget has provided better learning opportunities for our students; time for our teachers to collaborate about students and curriculum, and opportunities to forge stronger relationships with families. Specifically, the FY 05 budget partially restored art, music, physical education, library and technology education at the elementary level, partially restored foreign language, art, music, physical education, and technology education at the middle school, and restored sections of math, English, social studies, science, fine arts, health science, and the eight block schedule at the high school.

While this budget balanced the education needs of students with economic realities, the FY 05 budget did not have the full support of all of our constituents –we had many constituents who believed the budget should have been higher so we could restore a greater number of our academic programs. We also had just as many constituents who believed the budget should have been lower so as to ease the tax burden. We believed this budget was a fair, middle-of-the-road budget that had compromises on all sides.

At the June 21st School Committee meeting, the District bid farewell and Godspeed to teachers and support staff at the second annual “We Honor You” reception. Honored retirees included Jean B. Jones (23 years), Carolyn A. Sawyer (21 years), Dr. Kalil S. Boghdan (31 years), Charles H. Clair (23 years), Nancy W. Rogers (35 years), Stephen C. Sawyer (35 years), Virginia F. Sykes (33 years), Charles D. Vose (34 years), David J. Dorman (18 years) and Carolyn L. Horsman (22 years). The District also honored Lisa Alexander, Gillian Hahn, and Christopher Rice who resigned their administrative positions to pursue other positions in education and the private sector.

No report of this kind would be complete without taking the opportunity to thank the many people who supported our schools this past year. On behalf of the students, faculty, administration, and School Committee, I thank the Friends of Pre-School, Buker, Cutler, Winthrop, Miles River, and High School, Special Education Parent Advisory Board, HW Education Fund, HW Rotary Club, HWRHS Sports and Activities Alliance, Pro Musica II, Gordon-Conwell Seminary, and the many generous parents and community members who contributed time and money to support our schools.

I am also grateful to our faculty, staff, principals, assistant principals, and the District Leadership Team for their devotion to the children and youth of Hamilton and Wenham. Finally, we are most appreciative to the townspeople of Hamilton and Wenham and the Hamilton and Wenham Boards of Selectmen and Finance Committees who have seen us through difficult times and who continue to support our efforts to make the Hamilton-

Wenham Schools the very best we can be. The FY 05 Budget Process personified the values of cooperation and collaboration that embody our communities. As your Superintendent, I thank each and every community member for their support of our students.

In closing, our initiatives continue to advance the coherence and quality of our educational program. There are many goals yet to realize which are dependent upon high levels of budget funding. Our professional staff must have the resources if we are to continue to be competitive with similar school districts in developing, providing, and maintaining a high quality educational program for our students in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional Schools.

Dr. Marinel D. McGrath
Superintendent of Schools

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Dr. Maryellen Duffy, Director

The Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Hamilton- Wenham Regional School District continues to work with the Leadership Team and the staff to focus the district's curriculum and professional development work around the district's goals.

In spring 2004, a plan for curriculum renewal and revision was developed and approved by the Leadership Team and presented to the School Committee. As a result of this initiative, curriculum and instruction task forces were established in Foreign Language, History/Social Studies, and Physical Education/Health Education. The task force committees developing K-12 curriculum guides. The Professional Development Committee's responsibilities and duties were expanded to include a curriculum focus and was renamed the "Curriculum and Professional Development Committee".

Fortunately, state and federal grants have allowed us to continue offering quality professional development opportunities and support to our teachers. The Hamilton-Wenham School District has been able to offer its staff numerous grant funded professional development opportunities which include, the Skillful Teacher, the Responsive Classroom, Math Trailblazers, Curriculum Mapping, and Guided Reading. The Beginning Teacher Orientation, Induction and Mentoring Program and the curriculum coach positions have also been funded through grants. In addition, staff members are involved in 62 "Special Project" professional development opportunities during the early release Wednesday time period.

During the 2004-2005 school year the Hamilton-Wenham School District was awarded eight state grants (six entitlement and two competitive), one federal competitive grant and one private competitive grant totaling in the aggregate of \$345,480. These grants were targeted for MCAS remediation, staff professional development, curriculum support, curriculum development, physical education, health education, early childhood, and drug, alcohol and violence prevention programs. Staff was also involved in professional development opportunities in science, mathematics, engineering and technology through grant supported programs in collaboration with Salem State College and the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

MCAS scores reveal that Hamilton-Wenham student scores are above the state average in all five subject areas tested: reading, English language arts, mathematics, and science and technology/engineering. Our school district is doing very well in the areas of reading (99% passing at grade 3); English (average of 98% passing at grades 4, 7 and 10), mathematics (average 95% passing at grades 4, 6, 8, and 10) and science (96% passing at grades 5 and 8).

The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District recognizes that student achievement, curriculum and professional development are interrelated and will continue to pursue and secure opportunities to support these connections.

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES

Deborah Frontierro, Director

The Special Education Department of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District provides a wide range of programs for students with disabilities, ages 3 to 22. Currently, 332 students in the district (14.7% of the general population) are identified as needing special education services. Special education is a required program for all school districts under both federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Act- IDEA) and state law (chapter 766). Eligibility for Special Education services is determined by a team of teachers, parents and other professionals. It is based upon the presence of a diagnosed disability, the inability to make effective progress in the general curriculum due to the disability, and the need for specially designed instruction or related services. Evaluation teams, comprised of trained professionals, are present in each school in the district. They use the latest diagnostic instruments available to assess students so that teams can develop programs that address the individual students' needs.

The Integrated Preschool serves student from ages 3 to 5. Teachers, teaching assistants, monitors and therapists work together to provide services to students in an integrated model. In this setting, preschoolers learn and play together with their non-disabled peers. As students with disabilities become school age, this inclusive and integrated model continues, with most special education students receiving services within the regular classroom. Professional special educators, trained paraprofessionals and therapists support our classroom teachers in meeting the needs of students with learning disabilities, health and sensory disabilities, communication disorders, neurological impairments, cognitive deficits and emotional and behavioral difficulties. The R.E.A.C.H. and A.S.P.I.R.E. programs serve our most disabled students and include academics and life skill instruction both in the school and in the community.

The Special Education Department is evaluated annually on a three-year rotation between elementary, middle school and high school programs. These evaluations are required by law of all public schools as a means of ensuring quality programs for students with disabilities. In addition, the Department of Education conducts a full coordinated Program Review every six years, with a mid-cycle review on one of the years in between. The mid-cycle review for Hamilton-Wenham took place during December 2003. The Department is proud of its' record of service within the district, and realizes that the high quality teaching practices of classroom teachers and the strong district curriculum have set the climate of educational excellence that allow students with disabilities to succeed. The support of the school committee, the superintendent, school administrators, families and townspeople has been essential in meeting the needs of all learners in the district.

BESSIE BUKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Brian F. O'Donoghue, Principal

The Buker School has an enrollment of 251 students this school year. It was a very exciting and productive year as we welcomed our new preschool students in addition to our kindergarten through grade five population. The preschool program had previously operated outside of the Buker School. They are a wonderful addition to our community.

We prepared for a leadership transition as our principal, Gillian Hahn, announced her resignation in January. A committee consisting of Sue Cooke, Martha Cesarz, Linda Mastrianni, Karen Woolf, Martha Brennan, Lee Merrill, George O'Shea, and Frank Cause worked through the spring in search of the next leader of the Buker School. Brian O'Donoghue, a former fifth grade teacher at the Spofford Pond School in Boxford, was hired and began in his new role as the Buker principal in July.

The teachers continued to make learning challenging and exciting for the children of Buker. We completed our second year with the new *Math Trailblazers* program. Guided reading strategies were implemented to meet the appropriate reading levels of all of our students. In addition to these school wide initiatives, teachers and students were busy learning and discovering at each grade level. The kindergarteners spent time learning about the life cycles of birds and frogs. Our first graders were transformed into pharaohs during their Egypt study. In second grade, our students learned to eat healthy and shared lunch in the cafeteria with their parents as a culmination of their nutrition unit. Colonial Day featured our third graders involved in a variety of activities dealing with colonial life. The fourth and fifth grade students demonstrated their creative problem solving skills during our Science Fair.

The Buker School was fortunate once again to receive such strong support from our parent community. The Friends of Buker led by Laney Makin continued to work tirelessly to provide us with a variety of resources that enhanced the learning experience for our students. Friends' funds were used to purchase a mobile cart that contains 20 laptop computers for use in the classrooms. Our cultural enrichment program that featured among other experiences, Hildreth Crill, a poet in residence was also generously funded by the Friends. Our entire school community rallied around the cupola restoration project. Money was raised and parents volunteered to do the work. This was a great example of the strength and commitment that defines the Buker School community.

The Buker School continues to be a great place for children to grow and learn. We look forward to their continued growth as citizens of the world.

CUTLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Susan Cooke, Principal

The Cutler School has experienced a positive, productive and challenging year in 2004. Staff, students, and our families worked closely together to enhance the effective learning environment we have created at Cutler.

Cutler's current school population is at 263 students, a similar number of students in comparison to recent years. Staff changes this year included the retirement of Nancy Rogers, first grade teacher, after 34 years of service to the students of Hamilton and Wenham. Julie Rothrock is our new first grade teacher. Anita Evetts has joined us as a second grade teacher and Cerissa Napolitano is our new fourth grade teacher. We have also hired a new physical education teacher, Jessica McCue, who has replaced Jason Cacciputti. Jason now teaches at the high school.

Our Wednesday professional development time has been spent on development in the areas of curriculum, instruction, and assessment. We have focused on alignment of our K-5 Language Arts curriculum with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. We have also studied the various ways in which we assess students' progress and ways it helps inform our instruction. The elementary teachers have just finished implementation of a new Math curriculum, Math Trailblazers, and are adapting and refining it to meet the academic needs of our students. It is more linked to language arts and science concepts, than our previous math curriculum. We have also implemented many effective instructional strategies from "The Responsive Classroom." These strategies address the students' interest in and capacity to work together in a classroom community. Most of our staff has been trained in designing a classroom environment that encourages collaboration, effective communication and conflict resolution skills.

The Friends of Cutler, led by Tracy Gould and a dedicated board of volunteers, continued to provide monetary, moral and many volunteer hours of support. We were able to purchase new books for the classroom libraries, and laptop computers for the students to use in their classes. The Friends of Cutler also funded many cultural enrichment programs which provided a broader understanding of the sciences and arts for all our students. For example, a new program, "Meet The Masters", was introduced this year to all our students. It is an art history appreciation program led by parent volunteers. Parents have led assemblies and in class workshops in order to encourage students to learn about famous artists, their techniques, and their works. "Meet The Masters" is a tremendous success and is well received by students, parents and staff.

We feel that 2004 was a productive and rewarding year for our students and staff. We invite the citizens of Hamilton and Wenham to visit Cutler. We thank you for your continued interest and support in the youth of Hamilton and Wenham.

WINTHROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Martha D. Cesarz, Principal

There are 370 students enrolled at the Winthrop School. The enrollment has remained constant over the last few years. With the community support for the school budget, instructional programs were funded at the elementary level resulting in few staff changes at the Winthrop School. New staff hired this year due to retirements or resignations included Kristen Morgese, grade three teacher, Frank Cirina, Head Custodian, and Bob Bosse, Custodian, Jan Lee, adjustment counselor and Diane Rhatigan, an LPN.

Through the generosity of "Pro Musica", all grade four and five children who wished to participate in chorus did so without a user fee. In the spring, a district-wide elementary committee was formed to develop a new report card. The committee met frequently throughout the summer to study feedback from teachers and parents as well as to study research on assessment. The new report card was piloted to assess children's progress during the year. The Report Card Committee will use feedback from parents and teachers so a final report card can be adopted for full implementation in September, 2005.

All staff development programs offered this year were grant-funded with a large portion of training at elementary level funded by a grant from the Hamilton-Wenham Education Fund. Teachers continued training in the "Responsive Classroom" where they learned a variety of instructional practices to build a stronger sense of community in classrooms and to teach children to be responsible for their actions and learning. Teachers also participated in training through Tufts University to implement guided reading and writing.

Each year, the Friends of Winthrop School support the school with fundraising and by planning family activities. This year they funded a residency program with "Poetry Alive" and a school-wide fieldtrip to the opera to enrich the school theme of "Once Upon A Time at Winthrop School". Debra Brown and Lisa Robinson headed the Friends this year and planned new ways to involve parents in school and to raise money. Tish Rodde, with the help of many parents, organized another successful December Holiday Boutique which is the major fundraiser at the school. A parent, Robin Sears, transformed the school into "A Peaceable Kingdom" with an exquisite mural painted on the school's front windows. The Friends also funded the replacement of the stage curtain and the installation of a new sound system along with cultural arts' programs and enrichment materials. Of particular note this year are the efforts of Charlotte Lidrbauch who formed a "Beautification Committee" to organize a Saturday clean-up that involved planting, pruning, and painting. Their efforts have made a huge difference in the appearance of our school.

Winthrop School teachers are eager, motivated, and responsive. Working with parents makes Winthrop School a very special place where children can be successful in their learning. We know that that this could not happen without the support of the towns of Hamilton and Wenham. Winthrop School thanks the community for its continued support and invites all to visit the school to see what makes it a special place to be.

MILES RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Janice C. DeSantis, Principal

The 2004 school year began the partial restoration of program reductions and eliminations. A five-year plan was developed to restore our curriculum and instructional programs to the standards our school district upheld in 2001 which positively impact all aspects of middle school life including programming for students, teacher retention, and affirmation that our communities value excellence in education.

Our Technology Education (T.E.) program was partially restored after being eliminated. The previous lack of this program was noted when students could not answer MCAS questions related to Technology Education. The T.E. program is now offered to all students in the middle school.

Our Foreign Language program was also partially restored. Although the French language was eliminated, all middle school students received Spanish instruction. Three classroom sets of new Spanish textbooks and support materials were purchased. Plans to continue the restoration of our foreign language program and the purchasing of additional textbooks have been developed for future budgets.

The eighth grade math program was augmented with the purchase of new math textbooks that replaced 13 year old texts that were not aligned with the Massachusetts math framework. Also, graphing calculators were purchased to strengthen our math instructional strategies.

With only one counselor to service 509 students, our school community was elated to have the restoration of a full-time school psychologist position. The school psychologist offered social skills groups required for students on individual education plans, helped to support students returning from outside placements and completed all the evaluations for special education assessments.

Also, a new position, behavior specialist, was added to our service delivery programs. This position was recommended as a need by outside evaluations for several years. With the implementation of this position, some students in outside placements were able to return to Miles River Middle School for their education. The tuition costs for these outside placements were used to fund this new position. The behavior specialist supports a variety of children who have challenging social and emotional needs.

The Massachusetts Department of Education (D.O.E.) revised the history and social studies curriculum for middle schools. Therefore, our social studies teachers worked during the summer and after school to develop a geography program aligned with the frameworks and to select current instructional materials to support the program implementation for FY 2005.

Lisa Alexander, assistant principal, moved to another school system. Her successor, Christy Hall, joined our school community this fall. Ms. Hall is a doctoral candidate and previously served as an interim assistant principal.

The Miles River Middle School community thanks the citizens of Hamilton-Wenham for their support and invites you to visit our middle school.

HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Robert M. Krol, Principal

I am indeed fortunate to be writing my first town report as the new principal of the high school. I continue to be impressed with the quality of educators serving the families of Hamilton-Wenham. One of our faculty Mr. Kevin O'Reilly, social studies department chair won national recognition winning the prestigious Grand Prize NASDAQ Teachers Award for Economics.

Individuals who have retired from dedicated service at the end of the school year included Dr. Kalil Boghdan, science department chair, Mr. Steve Sawyer, math teacher, Mr. Charles Clair, guidance department chair, Ms. Virginia Sykes, English teacher, and Ms. Jean Jones, school adjustment counselor. They provided our students with a rich and meaningful learning experience.

Our students continue to excel in their daily academic endeavors, and in national and state testing. Our students' performance on the Scholastic Aptitude Testing, Advanced Placement, and MCAS are well above national and state averages. 81% of the class continued their education at 4-year colleges, with an additional 12% continuing at two-year and post secondary schools. We are also proud of our students serving in the military and those starting their careers in the workforce.

Students continue to be active in co-curricular activities with well over 150 students taking part in the annual science and history fairs. Three juniors continued on in the history fair competition to win first place in the group media project on the National level. Over 200 students were involved throughout the year in various clubs and activities.

Our art, music, and drama students continue to distinguish themselves. Several students won Boston Globe Key Awards, and Drama Guild Awards at the One-Act Festival. Seventeen students were selected to District band and chorus. A junior was selected to the Massachusetts All-State Band.

In addition, our choral students continue to conduct the Brown Bag Concert Series at the Community House throughout the year.

Our athletic teams competed successfully in all three seasons finishing first in football, and for the second straight year first as Cape Ann League Swimming Champions. Our girls' basketball team played in the state semi-finals. The participation rates in athletics included over 300 students in fall sports and over 200 students in both the winter and spring seasons.

The support of our parent groups continues to be outstanding. The Friends of the High School, the various booster clubs, and the Sports and Activities Alliance enriched our students' lives.

MILES RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE EIGHT GRADUATES

Daniel Agocs
 Alexander Atwater
 Jacqueline Barthelmes
 Niles Batchelder
 Adrienne Belleau
 Dale Bishop
 Patrick Blais
 Molly Boal
 Roland Bradshaw
 Rebecca Bridger
 Joseph Brislin
 Hannah Bromfield
 Christina Brown
 Mark Buckler
 Robert Burnham
 Lindsay Camerer
 Edward Camuso, Jr.
 Matthew Carozzi
 Harrison Carr
 Rachel Carr
 Bryan Cauley
 Katharine Chamberlin
 Jake Cotter
 Samantha Crabb
 Adam Crossley
 Julia Croyle
 Daniel Curran
 Kenneth Curran
 Elise D'Ambrosio
 Lindsay Davis
 Michael Davis
 Laura DeBlock
 Caroline DeFelice
 Suzanne DeFelice
 Matthew DePiero
 Jaclyn DiChiara
 Julie Doughty
 Thomas Drinkwater
 Margaret Druschel
 Alicia Duca
 Kayleigh Dunn

Paige Durgin
 Honora Einhorn
 Carley Elder
 Tabitha Eldridge
 Jenny Esdale
 Brittney Evans
 Kristen Fales
 Rosemary Farrell
 Jackson Fields
 Julia Fields
 Alison Flores
 Teri Ford
 Timothy Ford
 Eden Forman
 Lucy Frye
 Jonathan Godin
 Lindsay Gonsiorowski
 Jeffrey Goodrich
 Neal Goodwin
 Ryan Goodwin
 Jordan Grillo
 Nina Gross
 Crystel Hamel
 Marcus Hanna
 Ryan Hanna
 Nicole Hanson
 Chantal Hart
 Brian Heitz
 Emily Helming
 Kelly Hendrickson
 John Hession
 Molly Horn
 Joseph Hoyle
 Louis Hughes
 Rebecca Jack
 Anna Jackson
 Joshua Janssen
 Alexander Johnson
 Stephanie Jones
 Trevor Jones
 Charlotte Karrlson-Willis

Daniel Katz
 Julia Katz
 Megan Katz
 August Kawski
 Kathryn Keegan
 Meghan Kelley
 Michael Kennedy
 Thomas Kinsman
 Emily Kopp
 Adam Kulhavy
 Keir Lee-Barber
 Meredith Lyon
 Xiaonan Ma
 Peter MacKenna
 Jared Maddern
 Nathan Masterson
 Jesse McElvain
 Andrew McGrath
 Dana McGrath
 David Moffat
 Sherilyn Moniz
 Helen Monroe
 Colby Morgan
 Eleanor Morley
 Alexa Mullin
 Kathryn Murdoch
 Gillian Murphy
 Riley Nickerson
 Kelsey Norwood
 Gabriel Pacione
 Christien Parello
 Cassie Penta
 Courtney Perkins
 Taylor Pessin
 Devon Pierro
 Charles Pilkani
 Lexy Pingree
 Mihika Pradhan
 Johanna Purdy
 Joshua Rice
 Hilary Richard

Brittany Richmond
 Olivia Rodes
 Alyssa Roehr
 Jaclyn Rosenberg
 Isaiah Rotondi-Gray
 Morgan Russell
 Hailey Sawyer
 Josie Scarpa
 Devon Scuteri
 Benjamin Senning
 Ellen Sexton
 Rebecca Shedden
 Robin Shepherd
 Stephanie Sheppard
 Cindy Sherman
 Olivia Shiland
 Jackson Shlopak
 Ashley Spongberg
 Alexandra St. Pierre
 Nikko Stevens
 Matthew Stewart
 Paul Sullivan
 Kevin Sun
 Welsey Surette
 Deborah Tam
 Derek Tanch
 Kimberly Tetreault
 Joel Trunfio
 Sean Verrington
 Vanessa Vitale
 Benjamin von Staats
 Emily Wallick
 Michael Walton
 Jeffrey White
 Jesse-Lynn Willwerth
 Matthew Wilson
 James Wolcott
 Evan Yu
 Dawn Zampell
 Michael Zheng

HAMILTON-WENHAM REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2004

GRADUATES

Amy Ahearn
 Casey Lee Anderson
 Jonathan Peter Andreas
 Katherine Mary Aristizabal
 Nicholas Dean Asadorian
 Whitney Elizabeth Beauregard
 Brandon Dennis Benton
 Logan Garrett Bert
 Parker Russell Bert
 Megan Frantz Bishop
 Laura Prince Blanchard
 Samantha Jacqueline Bond
 Filip Andrzej Bortkiewicz
 Eric Scott Brooks
 Laurel Felton Brown
 Trevor Michael Burke
 Katlyn Ann Burnham
 Craig Jordan Bybee
 Malcolm Winget Bybee
 Jon Lyric Gordon Bynoe
 Joel Scott Camacho
 Elizabeth Babbitt Camerer
 Garrett Michael Carr
 James Robert Carr
 Shaun Robert Carrick
 Michael Joshua Chandler
 Ashley Marie Chapman
 Andrea Berkeley Chivakos
 Remington Alonzo Clark, IV
 Phoebe Beardsley Cole
 Eliza Lincoln Congdon
 Zachary Adam Connor
 Allison Lindsey Cox
 Samantha Nicole Crossley
 Hilary Kathleen Davis
 Emily Giles Decatur
 Jacob Max DeGroot
 Erica Michael Doane
 Mark William Dorman
 Krystin Marie Dragonetti
 Meredith VanNess Duca
 Timothy Joseph Duffy
 Lindsay Elaine Duncan
 William Samuel Einhorn
 Heather Elizabeth Evans
 Evelyn Ann Falasca
 Margaret Charlotte Farwell
 Rachel Ann Fearon
 Michael Wayne Fitzgerald, Jr.
 Meghan Elizabeth Flynn
 Jonathan Norman Fontaine
 Molly Elizabeth Ford
 Marcus Andrew Frerk
 Samantha Marie Frontiera
 Tatum Margaret Fumari
 Nicole Jeannine Gagne
 Darren Richard Gallant
 Ashlee Joan Gansenberg
 Alexandra Leary Gatti

Terri Renee Gaudenzi
 Vanessa Rose Gentleman
 Lindsay Marie Girard Nicholas
 Steven Govednik
 Katherine Elizabeth Graves
 Scott Xiao Guo
 Brittany Constance Gwinn
 Christopher James Hamilton
 Audrey Rose Harkness
 William Anthony Harris
 Leandra Marie Harrison
 Traquis Alan Hart
 Sarah Lindsay Hartley
 Ellen Rose Heerlein
 Jordan Scott Henderson
 Catherine Craig Henkels
 Ryan Emerson Herrick
 Stephen Crispin Herrick
 Joshua Bartell Hersey
 Rosalie Frances Hezekiah
 Cedric Thomas Hill
 Richard Lepnis Hoffman
 Ryan James Hussey
 Edward Charles Ireland
 Torrie Wilbert Jackson
 Jeffrey Andrew Jensen
 Aaron Walcott Jermain
 Adam Thomas Johnson
 Carl Michael Johnson
 Kayla Paige Jutras
 Robert Siebert Karpp, Jr.
 Whitney Deming Kent
 Ryan Caves Kieilty
 Keith Jai Ketcham
 Caroline Patricia King
 Justin Myles Knope
 Andrew Dean Kulhavy
 Alyssa DeHaven Landry
 Ashley Alyssa Lantych
 Joshua Curtis Lear
 Ryan Thomas Lee
 Steven Charles Mackey
 Nicholas Sorenson Maddem
 Nicole Lynn Malatesta
 Katelyn Rebecca Malio
 Brittney Michon Malionek
 Tyler Russell Maltbie
 Peter Thomas Marcotte
 Caitlin Elizabeth Marques
 Joel Unsworth Martinez
 John Philip Masterson
 Jordan David Maurand
 Melissa Roxane May
 Lindsay Marie Mazzetta
 Molly Pingree McCormick
 Daniel Fredrick McGahey
 Jonathan Joseph McKenna
 Jessica Baker McKenzie
 Carolyn Miles McNamara

Lauren Ann Mears
 Kristin Ann Mercurio
 Courtenay Elizabeth Moore
 Christie Ann Morin
 Shelby Marie Morrison
 Jacqueline Page Murphy
 Andrew Fraser Naugler
 Katherine Marie Nolan
 Pamela Michelle Nordin
 Victoria Adelaide O'Neill
 Tristan Amanda Parady
 Ashley Rose Perkins
 Caroline Mann Plitt
 Emily Forrester Popp
 Rosemary Bemette Poppe
 Emma Louise Postlethwaite
 Benjamin Thomas Prieur
 Michele Lauren Puopolo
 Shana Lee Quince
 Shane Joseph Raddcliff
 Katherine Elizabeth Reid
 Danelle Rose Ribok
 Paul Lloyd Ricker, Jr.
 Stephen Alexander Roth
 Brittany Allison Ryan
 Michael Richard Salandrea
 Aleia Rose Salvati
 Nicholas John Sartell
 Bethany Jeanne Saulnier
 Heather Laren Sawyer
 Alisson Jean Scahill
 Ellen Theresa Scannell
 Kate Marie Shamsuddin
 Bryan Shields
 Christopher Andrew ShLika
 Taylor Chase Simons
 Luke Sierks Smith
 Elizabeth Carolyn Smolik
 Brett Cody Snavelly
 Ian Robert St. Pierre
 Elizabeth Dykeman Stokely
 Rachael Pauline Stone
 Ryan Gerald Sullivan
 Thayer Elizabeth Surette
 Kelsey Jayne Tam
 Andrew Jonathan Taylor
 Matthew Charles Tefft
 Kyle Lee Tilley
 Theodore James Tomich
 Jonathan Matthew Twomey
 Kurt Volker
 Scott Richard Weissman
 Emily Patience Welbourn
 John Connor Westfall
 Timothy Robert Whalen
 Anne Abbot Wingate
 Chris Austin Woods
 William Francis Wright-McDonald
 Dustin Arthur Zuch

NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

In December, the State Legislature unanimously voted on Chapter 463 of the Acts of 2004, which calls for the merger of the North Shore Regional Vocational School District and Essex Agricultural School. The legislation requires a positive vote of 75% of the communities to join the “new” district and construct a new school on the Essex Aggie campus. An oversight board will oversee all aspects of the planning and construction of the new school.

Student enrollment as of October 1, 2004 was 459. Hamilton has 14 students. Students participate in programs in automotive technology, carpentry, commercial arts, collision repair, cosmetology, culinary arts, information systems technology, graphic arts, health technology, machine technology, marketing and informational systems and masonry. In addition, Job Skills training, a special education program, also encourages inclusion into many of the technical/vocational areas.

MCAS scores continue to improve in mathematics. Last spring’s 10th graders achieved a passing rate of 82% on their first attempt at the test. An impressive number of students are passing at the Proficient and Advanced levels.

The Special Needs education program is inclusive in nature. Inclusion classes are offered in all grades and in every major academic subject area. In conjunction with this, many special needs students receive academic support services in the Tutoring Center, under the direction of the Special Education Coordinator.

The focus of the career exploratory program is to familiarize all 9th grade students with North Shore Technical High School’s vocational/technical areas. The exploratory has been modified in the last two years so that students spend four (4) periods in shop and four (4) in academics. The students will have completed their exploratory in the early spring and will then re-explore three (3) shops before making their final shop selection.

During December, guidance administered the CDM Interest Inventory to all freshmen. This is a tool used to assist the students in choosing their program and a springboard for discussion about post secondary plans.

David W. Ketcham, Hamilton Representative
Amelia P. O’Malley, Superintendent-Director

TOWN CLERK

I would like to begin my first Annual Report by sincerely thanking all who elected me. My first year as Town Clerk was extremely busy with two primaries, two elections and our town meeting. This office is responsible for local and state elections, recording and certification of all official actions from town meetings, census and voter registration, maintenance and issuance of vital records, processing and issuing various licenses including dog, fishing, hunting, sporting and marriage licenses.

Our office also serves as a general information center to the public. Numerous requests for certified copies of vital records, general information about the Town and its activities, genealogical information, business and legal decisions by Town boards are received by phone, e-mail over the counter and the U.S. mail.

The Town Clerks' staff consists of Administrative Assistant Marissa Frerk who joined us in April. Thanks to Marissa for her dedication and effort in performing the many and varied duties which, makes it possible for this office to run smoothly and also for her work on creating a very informative Web Page for the Town of Hamilton. We are very fortunate to have dedicated senior program workers who assist us with our special projects and special thanks to: Edward Haraden, Jack Kirby and Herbert Ryan.

	2002	2003	2004
Marriage Licenses Issued			
Residents (One or both parties from Hamilton)	20	18	28
Non Residents	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
Totals	29	25	36

Births Recorded			
Male	54	51	46
Female	<u>49</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>35</u>
Totals	103	102	81

Deaths Recorded			
Residents	40	41	43
Non Residents	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	40	44	44

Fish and Game Licenses Issued	
Fishing Licenses	62
Hunting Licenses	25
Sporting Licenses	17
Trapping	1
Waterfowl Stamps	18
Archery Stamps	19
Primitive Firearms	14

Dog Licenses Issued

Male	245
Neutered	407
Female	104
Spayed	<u>500</u>
Total	1,256
Kennels	13
Dogs Fined	148

Thanks to our Dog Officer Dyan Katz for her dedication to our furry friends and to the Board of Health for setting up the Rabies Clinic in the town garage with Dr. Hobbie.

Elections and Registrations

Board of Registrars -Mary Anne Burrige, Edward Seaver, James Richards and Jane M. Wetson, Clerk Officio

The two primaries and two elections were held at the Winthrop School and I sincerely thank the dedication and hard work of the DPW in setting up the election, the Board of Registrars and the Election Officials, and the Hamilton Police for their support and professionalism.

Summary of Elections & Town Meeting for 2004

March 2, 2004	Presidential Primary with 1,075 ballots cast – 292 Republicans, 781 Democrats, 0 Green-Rainbow, 2 Libertarians 19.1% of the total 5,625 voters
May 3, 2004	Annual Town Meeting with 344 registered voters in attendance
May 13, 2004	Annual Town Election with 1,855 ballots cast – 32.6% of the total 5,675 voters
September 14, 2004	State Primary with 272 ballots cast – 168 Republican, 114 Democrats, 0 Green-Rainbow, 0 Libertarians 4.9% of the total 5,752 voters
November 2, 2004	State Presidential Election with 4,595 votes cast – 77.3% of the total 5,938 voters

The report of all Town Meetings and Town Elections may be found following this report.

The annual census forms were mailed out, and again we are urging residents to complete and return as soon as possible. Massachusetts State and Federal funding and representation depend on population. Also, the listing of every resident and household is very important to our Police and Fire Departments for safety reasons.

	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Totals
Voters	2,024	1,856	1,531	5,411
Non-Voters	935	924	879	2,738
Total Residents	2,959	2,780	2,410	8,149

I thank you for your support and for allowing me to serve you.

Jane M. Wetson
Town Clerk

TOWN OF HAMILTON
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION
Held
Tuesday, March 2, 2004
At
Winthrop School, Hamilton, MA

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Jane M. Wetson, Acting Town Clerk.

At the close of voter registration (February 11, 2004) there were 5,625 registered voters.

	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Democrat	375	364	212	951
Green Party USA	3	0	2	5
Green Rainbow	3	1	3	7
Inter. 3rd Party	3	3	0	6
Libertarian	9	5	5	19
Reform	1	0	1	2
Republican	450	458	519	1427
Unenrolled	1323	1123	762	3208
	2167	1954	1504	5625

There were 1075 votes cast as follows:

Town of Hamilton				1075	
Presidential Primary Election				TOTAL	
March 2, 2004					
TALLY TOTALS		116	99	77	292
REPUBLICAN BALLOT					

Candidate Name	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	TOTALS
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	8	5	2	15
George W. Bush	101	83	71	255
Write-ins	1	3	2	6
	6	8	2	16
State Committee Man				
Blanks	20	9	12	41
Dale C. Jenkins, Jr	31	17	20	68
John N. Racho	65	72	45	182
Write -ins	0	1	0	1
State Committee Woman				
Blanks	29	17	24	70
Christina A. Bain	87	81	52	220
Write-ins	0	1	1	2

Town Committee (35)

Blanks	3346	2885	2294	8525
Group				
Paul G. Fischer	66	66	48	180
William F. Martin	66	71	42	179
James A. Murphy	67	59	37	163
Forrester "Tim" A Clark, Jr	76	68	58	202
Cameron Clark	63	59	44	166
Andrew N. Mazzetta	73	61	49	183
Andrew M. Padellaro	60	60	37	157
William F. Bowler	70	69	44	183
Jill J. Chagnon	79	65	40	184
Write-ins	0	2	2	4

Town of Hamilton
Presidential Primary Election **March 2, 2004**

TALLY TOTALS	303	281	197	781
DEMOCRATIC BALLOT				

Candidate Name	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	TOTALS
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	1	1	0	2
Richard Gephardt	0	1	0	1
Joseph Liberman	3	0	1	4
Wesley K. Clark	2	1	1	4
Howard Dean	13	11	9	33
Carol Moseley Braun	0	0	2	2
John Edwards	62	53	44	159
Dennis J. Kucinich	6	10	3	19
John F. Kerry	215	202	134	551
Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.	0	0	0	0
Al Sharpton	0	2	2	4
No Preference	1	0	1	2
Write-in	0	0	0	0

State Committee Man

Blanks	110	99	75	284
Andrew F. Armata	55	43	26	124
Daniel J. Lauzon	138	139	96	373
Write-in	0	0	0	0

State Committee Woman

Blanks	110	93	73	276
Kathleen A Pasquina	193	188	124	505
Write-in	0	0	0	0

Town Committee (15)

Blanks	4521	4206	2937	11664
Write-in	24	9	18	51

Town of Hamilton**Presidential Primary Election****March 2, 2004****TALLY TOTALS
Green-Rainbow Party**

Candidate Name	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	TOTALS
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	0	0	0	0
Kent Mesplay	0	0	0	0
Lorna Salzman	0	0	0	0
Paul Glover	0	0	0	0
David Cobb	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0

State Committee Man

Blanks	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0

State Committee Woman

Blanks	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0

Town Committee (10)

Blanks	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0

Town of Hamilton
 Presidential Primary Election March 2, 2004

TALLY TOTALS
Libertarian Party

2

2

Candidate Name	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	TOTALS
Presidential Preference				
Blanks	1	0	0	1
Jeffrey Diket	0	0	0	0
Ruben Perez	0	0	0	0
Aaron Russo	0	0	0	0
Michael Badnarik	0	0	0	0
Gary Nolan	0	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0	0
Write-in	1	0	0	1
State Committee Man				
Blanks	2	0	0	2
Write-in	0	0	0	0
State Committee Woman				
Blanks	2	0	0	2
Write-in	0	0	0	0
Town Committee (3)				
Blanks	6	0	0	6
Write-in	0	0	0	0

The polls were closed at 8:00 PM. Results were announced by Raymond Whipple, Warden at 9:40 PM.

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:

Jane M. Wetson
 Jane M. Wetson
 Acting Town Clerk

Town of Hamilton
Annual Town Meeting
Held
May 3, 2004
At
Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School

Moderator declared a quorum being present (150) and the Warrant returned showing it had been properly served, opened the 211th Annual Town Meeting at 7:45 P.M. with 344 registered voters checked and present.

Moderator asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tellers have been appointed by the Moderator and duly sworn.

John Elder	--61 Alan Road
Heather Ford	--609 Bay Road
John Gledhill	--465 Bridge Street
Brad Kimball	--160 Gardner Street
Robert Poole	--56B Moynihan Road
Leon Purington	--23 Mill Street
Alan Reed	--51 Old Cart Road
Deborah Twining	--31 Woodbury Street

We have set up the cafeteria across the hall as overflow space. There is a closed circuit television set in the cafeteria and two tellers. All other non-registered visitors must be seated in the visitors' area.

Another procedural note, we record these proceedings so as to have an accurate record of the meeting. Therefore, unless I recognize you by name, please use the microphones provided and give your name and address when you arise to address the moderator. People in the cafeteria desiring to speak to any article should contact one of the tellers and arrange to be brought to the microphones in the auditorium.

All registered voters have been given a distinctive voter ID card when checking into the meeting. Do not lose or destroy this card. You will need to show the card on any counted vote. If you cannot show the card, your vote may not be counted.

The invocation was given by Rev. Dr. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr., President of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Moderator called upon Bill Bowler, member of the Board of Selectmen for a few announcements.

Bill Bowler announced Chairman Paul Ricker will be leaving the board. This Town Meeting will be his last as a Selectman, however, his last Selectmen's meeting will be May 10. On behalf of Jim Bryant and himself, Bill wanted to thank Paul for his service to the town. "He has been a wonderful colleague to work with and his knowledge of the town and Public Works has been a great asset to the Board of Selectmen and we wish him well." His remarks were followed by a standing ovation.

Bill also announced that the pillars at Patton Park were restored and were set to be rededicated at a ceremony at the park to take place on Saturday, May 15, 2004, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The pillars were donated to the Town by the people and government of France in honor of Hamilton resident General George S. Patton, Jr., commander of the Third Army in World War II, which was responsible for the liberation of France. The rededication coincides with the 60th anniversary of D-Day and the liberation. Representatives of the French government are expected to attend. Bill said he hoped that residents would be able to attend and join in celebrating this historic event and the heroism of General Patton.

ARTICLE 1-1
*Election of
 Officers
 and Ballot
 Questions*

Moved by the Moderator, duly seconded that the Town vote to elect the following Town Officers and to vote for the ballot questions shown as **Appendix A** of this Warrant at the Annual Town Election on Thursday, May 13, 2004 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Winthrop School.

Town Moderator for one year
 One Selectmen for three years
 Town Clerk for one year, to fill unexpired term
 One Assessor for three years
 Two members of the Planning Board for five years
 One member of the Hamilton Housing Authority for five years and one member to fill an unexpired term of two years
 One member of Hamilton Wenham Library Trustee for three years
 Three members of the Hamilton-Wenham School Committee for three years and
 One member of the Hamilton Wenham Library Trustees representing Hamilton to fill an unexpired term of one year.

After reading the article the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 1-2
Reports

Moderator recognizes Kahlil Boghdan of the Public Safety Building Planning Committee. Mr. Boghdan read the following statement.

On December 23, 2002, the Public Safety Building Committee (PSBC) was appointed by the Hamilton Board of Selectmen to study and to propose new facilities for the police, the fire, and the emergency center. The Committee met for almost a year in 2003, and is comprised of Hamilton residents: Bill Clifford, Robert DeFelice, John Hale, Philip McCarthy, and Kalil Boghdan (Chairman). The Committee's mission is to recommend to the Board of Selectmen, new facilities which will meet the needs of the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Emergency Center. As a brief history, Hamilton voters turned down plans for a new police facility and a new fire facility ten years ago. In May of 2002, plans for a new police facility and plans for renovations to the existing fire station were voted down at the ballot.

Understanding the need to update the existing police and fire department facilities, the committee's charge by the Hamilton Board of Selectmen is to examine the most recent study undertaken for the police and fire departments, and to propose new facilities which will meet the needs of the public safety departments and the needs of the citizens of the town of Hamilton.

The committee feels that before a proposal for new police facilities and new fire facilities are brought before the citizens of the town, several factors need to be taken into consideration. They are:

The primary concern of the committee is to explore all options for construction of facilities to satisfy the needs of the Police, Fire, and ECO departments using the most cost effective solutions.

The committee has been investigating how similar communities have satisfied their needs, and will publish its findings for the Hamilton community.

The next task will be to investigate construction options including rehabilitating current facilities, alternative building materials, and alternative financing vehicles available to complete the project. The committee will publish its findings for the citizens of Hamilton.

The final task will be to present to the town a plan for Public Safety facilities that satisfy all the mandatory building regulations that maintains the community atmosphere of the town, and that which is affordable.

The League of Women Voters investigated the issue of sharing services with other towns. As a result of this, an independent financial analysis was performed, and the results reported indicated that there would not be significant financial savings to regionalize the public safety departments from Hamilton and Wenham.

At the 2003 Town meeting, \$35,000.00 was appropriated by the citizens of Hamilton to begin a feasibility study.

A total of fourteen architectural firms responded to the Public Safety Building Committee Request for Proposals (RFP), and three firms were invited to a final interview on Thursday, October 2, 2003.

After careful deliberations, the Committee recommended that Reinhardt Associates, Inc., of Agawam, MA be contracted for the architectural/engineering services for a feasibility study for a new public safety complex. The Committee felt that Reinhardt Associates met all of the criteria needed for the Town of Hamilton.

The Committee is awaiting final instructions from the Selectmen regarding the feasibility study.

In closing, all Public Safety Building Committee meetings are open meetings and are open to the public, and public input at these meetings will be noted and appreciated. If the citizens of Hamilton have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members of the committee. The wish of the Committee is to produce a plan which serves the needs of the Hamilton Police Department and Hamilton Fire Department, and the needs of Hamilton citizens into the future. The committee is working hard to bring plans before the citizens of Hamilton in the not too distant future.

Moderator recognizes Rick Mitchell of the Planning Board. Mr. Mitchell read the following statement.

Planning Board Activities 2003-2004

Completion of Master Plan

But Why A Master Plan—Isn't Everything Just Fine & Dandy In Hamilton-YES & NO

- Town & Citizens Blessed with Beautiful Landscapes and Natural Resources
- Biggest Asset Is the Land
- Growing Pressure Financial Pressure to Develop Land
- Development Is Costing More Than It Produces In Revenues & Pressures Current Residents Out

Goal Active Citizen Participation (2 year effort)

STEP 1--Identify Needs & Priorities of Residents

(What Do Citizens Value about Town & Options to Protect)

STEP II—Specific Recommendations & Implementation Plan

Extensive Public Participation Activities in Both Steps

- Questionnaire to every household (21% response rate)
- 2-half day town wide forums at Miles River Middle School
- Over 100 open public meetings of 7 separate committees
- Over a dozen issue specific articles in Hamilton Chronicle
- Public hearings on Draft Master Plan
- Presentations to Board of Selectman & Finance Committee
- Progress Updates at Town Meetings
- Public Access to All Documents via Dedicated Web Site

Entire Effort Guided by Professional Consultants with Extensive Local Experience

GOAL/RESULT:

- Not an Academic Exercise—But A Reflection Of Intensive Public Scrutiny
- Not A Paper Plan—But an Action Plan
- Not A Lifeless Plan—But A Living Plan To Protect What We Hold

Dear—While Charting A Clear Path For The Future

Actions:

Definitive Blue Print To: (Name A Few)

- Preserve Open Space & Trails
- Take Pressure off Tax Payers by Careful Economic Development
- Generate Market Rate & Affordable Housing Options
- Promote Existing Agricultural & Equestrian businesses

Moderator recognizes Laurie Wilson of the Finance Committee. Ms. Wilson read over the following information.



FY2005 Budget Challenges

1. Decreasing Cherry Sheet revenues (State Aid) for last two years
2. Increasing Fixed Charges
(Health Benefits, Property and Casualty Ins., Retirement)
3. Unfunded Mandates
(O'Connell Bill, DEP-Ipswich River Regulations, SPED, Transportation, Ch. 70 Formula, MCAS, EPA storm water regs, Prevailing Wage Law, Ch. 40-B affordable housing, hazardous waste clean-up regs)

4

How the Budget is Produced

Selectmen and FinCom release a joint budget message and set timeline
Departments/Boards submit budget requests and warrant article proposals
FinCom reviews budgets, meets with departments and boards and develops recommended budget proposal
H-W FinComs meet jointly on the joint program budgets: Library, Emergency Center, Recreation, Schools, & Van
FinCom determines levy limit for coming fiscal year
FinCom analyzes revenue forecasts & allowable tax levy, determines if a budget gap exists (maximum allowable levy minus net expenditures)
If a gap exists, FinCom works with departments & Selectmen to make cuts and/or recommend an override in order to balance the budget
Budget is submitted to voters via Town Meeting articles and ballot votes

2

Hamilton "Cherry Sheet"

State Receipts		State Assessments	
FY2005*	\$696,738	FY2005*	\$178,356
FY2004	\$693,289	FY2004	\$200,259
FY2003	\$790,300	FY2003	\$177,209
FY2002	\$830,126	FY2002	\$179,722
FY2001	\$820,108	FY2001	\$202,589
FY2000	\$771,011	FY2000	\$187,809
*State Projection		*State Projection	

5

Proposed FY2005 Budget

Town Dept. Operating Expenses	\$6,912,214
Town Warrant Articles	518,445
(Town Revenue: State/Local)	(3,239,013)
Net Town Expenditures	4,191,646
Hamilton Share Net School Expense	11,538,118
Hamilton Share School Debt Service	693,834
North Shore Voc/Tech School	146,772
TOTAL PROPOSED TAX LEVY	\$16,570,470

6

FY 05 Budget Assumptions & Goals

Assumptions	Goals
Level Fund Expense	• Maintain essential services
2% Increase for Personnel	• Maintain capital replacement program to extent possible
12% Increase for Employee Health Benefits	• Provide modest increases in compensation for employees
10% Increase for General Insurance	• Maintain adequate reserves to address unforeseen occurrences in FY2005
Cherry Sheet: Level Receipts and Charges from State	

3

Determining FY05 Levy Limit

Start with FY04 Levy Limit	\$13,987,647
Increase by 2.5%	349,692
Add Revenue Capacity (new growth)	100,000
FY05 Levy Limit	\$14,437,339
Compare to Proposed Levy	\$16,570,470
Initial Excess over Levy Limit	\$2,133,131

7

How to Resolve the Difference Between Proposed Tax Levy and Levy Limit?

1. Reduce proposed levy by cutting some expenditures
2. Reduce proposed levy by paying some costs from non-tax sources, such as stabilization funds and certified free cash
3. Request voter approval to increase the levy by an override (permanent) or by capital exclusions (1 year only) and debt exclusions (for life of debt service)

B

New Growth History: Hamilton (New Construction adds to tax base and levy capacity)

Fiscal Year	Growth Value	Growth Levy\$	% Change
FY2005	\$8,012,821	\$100,000	-51%
FY2004	15,263,780	202,092	33%
FY2003	10,445,890	151,883	-9%
FY2002	11,004,187	168,384	42%
FY2001	7,450,185	116,968	15%
FY2000	6,369,604	101,598	18%
FY1999	5,388,024	86,262	1%

1:

Hamilton's Costs Outside the Levy Limit

Debt Exclusions (already approved)	
Town Debt Service	\$607,410
School Debt Service	\$693,934
Capital Exclusions	
Road Program	\$188,000
Weaver Pond	\$65,600
Overrides	
Additional Funding: Schools	\$581,612
Total Outside Levy Limit	\$2,136,556
Compared to Initial gap	\$2,133,131
Remaining Gap to Balance	\$3,425

9

Capital Expenditures in FY05

Department	Capital Item	Value
DPW	Road Program	\$188,000
DPW	Weaver Pond	\$65,600
OPW	Highland St. Bridge	\$60,000
OPW	Highland St. Sidewalk	\$33,000
DPW	1 Dump Truck	\$79,000
Police	Cruiser	\$28,000
Selectmen	Depot Square Improvements	\$45,000

1:

Tax Impact of Overall Budget: FY'05

- FY04 Total Tax Levy \$15,100,432
- FY05 Total Proposed Tax Levy \$16,570,470
- Increase over FY04 \$1,470,038
- FY04 Tax Rate = \$12.48 per \$1,000 valuation
- Each \$100,000 increase in levy adds \$.08 to rate
- \$1,470,038/\$100,000 = 14.70 x \$.08 = \$1.18

9.5% INCREASE IN TAX RATE			
'04 Tax Rate	\$12.48	\$350,000 home, Increase	\$413
Increase	1.18	\$447,000 home, Increase	\$528
'05 Tax Rate	\$13.66	\$700,000 home, Increase	\$826

10

Other Articles for Town Meeting

- Land Acquisition Former Railroad Land (in lieu of taxes)
- Resolution of Chebecco Woods Encroachments
- Whistle Law Relief
- Zoning By-Laws Amendments:
 - Open-Space Farmland Preservation (Cluster Development)
 - Definitions
 - Citizens Petition re: Subdivision of lots with existing buildings
- Affordable Housing Production Plan
- Call/Fire/Reserve Police Health Insurance Option
- Outside Irrigation/Water Use By-Law
- Website Maintenance/Software: Downtown Septic Systems Study
- Note: Public Safety Building to be considered at a future Town Meeting

1

Some Factors in Overall 9.7% Increase of Hamilton Property Tax Levy

	Total Budget Increase/(Decrease)	
Benefits/Insurance/FICA	\$92,112	9.1%
Police (contractual obligations)	\$78,487	6.3%
Town Counsel (litigation)	\$39,750	66.0%
DPW (restore truck replacement program)	\$51,971	3.9%
Elder Ven (full-year service)	\$11,958	52.0%
Reduction in free cash offsetting levy	(\$186,920)	(27.1%)
North Shore Voc./Tech. School	\$58,883	63.3%
H-W School Operating Cost	\$1,003,016	8.5%
H-W Debt Service	\$80,296	13.1%

11

Regional Services Apportionment Adjustments for FY2005

Regional School District Apportionment based upon enrollment		Joint Recreation, ECO, Joint Library, & COA Ven Apportionment based upon property values of preceding 3 years	
FY2005		FY2005	
Wenham:	30.49%	Wenham:	37.93%
Hamilton:	69.51%	Hamilton:	62.07%
FY2004		FY2004	
Wenham:	30.12%	Wenham:	38.58%
Hamilton:	69.88%	Hamilton:	61.42%
Decrease of .37% for Hamilton		Increase of .65% for Hamilton	

1

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded, that the reports of Town Officials and Committees be received and placed in file.

After the explanations by Kahlil Boghdan, Rick Mitchell, and Laurie Wilson with discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 2-1 Compensation/ Classification Table

Moved by Bob Bullivant, duly seconded, that the Town amend the Personnel By-law, as recommended by the Personnel Board, by adopting changes to the classification and compensation plans.

Bob explained that there is an Annual Structural Increase of up to 2% for employees covered under the present By-Law. The Personnel Board, Board of Selectmen, and the Finance Committee are working on a design of a new compensation plan for management employees. It would be a merit based system and is intended on future increase based on personal goals and objectives.

For the second consecutive year the Hamilton Call Firefighters will go without a pay raise in order to help balance the Fire Department's budget. It is very refreshing to know that their motivation for the performance of the courageous work they do is not about the money. We can show some gratitude in Articles 2-9 and 2-10 but I would like to take this opportunity to ask the members of the Fire Department in the audience to please rise.

Members of the Fire Department received a standing ovation.

After Bob's comments and the applause, the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

APPENDIX B

Compensation Table

FY2005

CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION OF FULL AND PART-TIME POSITIONS

General Administration

Full Time Annual Salary (except where noted as hourly)

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.	V 42mos	VI 54 mos.	VII 66 mos.
Town Administrator	64,490	67,070	69,753	72,544	75,444	78,464	81,602
Finance Director/Acct. (2)	64,490	67,070	69,753	72,544	75,444	78,464	81,602
Treasurer-Collector	46,992	48,871	50,827	52,859	54,974	57,173	59,460
Town Accountant	39,824	41,416	43,073	44,795	46,589	48,450	50,389
Asst. Town Acct.	16.15hr.	16.80hr.	17.47hr.	18.17hr.	18.89hr.	19.65hr	20.43hr.
Director of Assessors Office	39,824	41,416	43,073	44,795	46,589	48,450	50,389
Chief Appraiser(1)	46,992	48,871	50,827	52,859	54,974	57,173	59,460
Asst. to Town Administrator	15.11hr.	15.72hr.	16.36hr.	17.01hr.	17.71hr.	18.39hr	19.15hr.

(1) Currently under a contract rate which differs from the salary in the table. See Contract Rate section.

(2) Less than full time. Hourly salary based on annual salary from table.

Part Time Hourly Rates

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.
Clerk/Typist	13.09	13.60	14.16	14.72
Custodian	13.68	14.22	14.79	15.38
Administrative Assistant	13.99	14.55	15.15	15.75
Facilities Repair and Maintenance	16.15	16.80	17.47	18.17

Town Hall Union Employees Hourly compensation established by union contract. Rates shown for information purposes only.

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.	V 42 mos.	VI 54 mos.	VII 66 mos.
Administrative Assistant - Grade 1	13.21	13.73	14.30	14.87	15.45	16.09	16.72
Administrative Assistant - Grade 2	14.14	14.69	15.30	15.91	16.53	17.20	17.89
Police Clerk/Stenographer - Grade 2	14.14	14.69	15.30	15.91	16.53	17.20	17.89

Assistant Treasurer/Collector – Grade 3	16.31	16.97	17.64	18.34	19.07	19.84	20.64
Assistant Assessor - Grade 3	16.31	16.97	17.64	18.34	19.07	19.84	20.64

Recreation Department

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.	V 42 mos.	VI 54 mos.	VII 66 mos.
Recreation Director	39,824	41,416	43,073	44,795	46,589	48,450	50,389

Building and Land Use

Full Time Annual Salary

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.	V 42 mos.	VI 54 mos.	VII 66 mos.
Building/Zoning Inspector(1)	33,748	35,097	36,504	37,962	39,481	41,060	42,703
Conservation Coordinator(2)	33,748	35,097	36,504	37,962	39,481	41,060	42,703
Planning Coordinator(2)	33,748	35,097	36,504	37,962	39,481	41,060	42,703

(1) Less than full-time. Currently under a contract rate which differs from the salary in the table. See Contract Rate section.

(2) Less than full time. Hourly salary based on annual salary from table.

Public Works

Full Time Annual Salary

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.	V 42 mos.	VI 54 mos.	VII 66 mos.
Public Works Director	64,490	67,070	69,753	72,544	75,444	78,464	81,602

Department of Public Works Union Employees

Hourly compensation established by union contract. Rates shown for information purposes only.

Step	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.
Foreman	18.25	19.00	19.80	20.63
Mechanic	18.25	19.00	19.80	20.63
Foreman 2	16.67	17.35	18.09	18.84
Heavy Equipment Operator	15.84	16.49	17.18	17.90
Truck Driver/Laborer	14.82	15.38	16.00	16.67
Water Sys. Oper. Lic. Class 3	16.42	17.10	17.78	18.52
Water Sys. Oper. Lic. Class 4	18.25	19.00	19.80	20.63

Public Safety

Full Time Annual Salary (except where noted as hourly)

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 30 mos.	V 42 mos.	VI 54 mos.	VII 66 mos.
Chief of Police (1)	64,490	67,070	69,753	72,544	75,444	78,464	81,602
Emergency Center Supervisor	39,824	41,416	43,073	44,795	46,589	48,450	50,389

Fire Chief	64,490	67,070	69,753	72,544	75,444	78,464	81,602
Fire Inspector	39,824	41,416	43,073	44,795	46,589	48,450	50,389
Asst. Fire Inspector/Firefighter	14.90hr.	15.50hr.	16.11hr.	16.76hr.	17.44hr.	18.13hr.	18.86hr.
Firefighter/Operator(2)	14.90hr.	15.50hr.	16.11hr.	16.76hr.	17.44hr.	18.13hr.	18.86hr.
Health Agent (1)	46,992	48,871	50,827	52,859	54,974	57,173	59,460

- (1) Currently under a contract rate which differs from the salary in the table. See Contract Rate section.
 (2) Firefighter/Operator holding officer position in Call Force will receive 5% differential.

Part Time

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 36 mos.
Dispatcher (3)	13.69hr.	14.49hr.	15.37hr.	16.26hr.
Reserve Patrolman (4)	14.84hr.	15.73hr.	16.67hr.	17.68hr.
Fire Equipment Mech.	17.12hr.	17.81hr.	18.52hr.	19.26hr.
Animal Control Off.	12.92hr.	13.44hr.	13.97hr.	14.54hr.
Custodian	13.68hr.	14.22hr.	14.79hr.	15.38hr.

- (3) The base pay differential for evenings (3PM to 11PM) is 3% and for nights (11PM to 7AM) is 5%.
 (4) The base pay differential for evenings (4PM to 12AM) is 3% and for nights (12AM to 8AM) is 5%.

Call Firefighters Wages (5)

Rank	Hourly Wage
Deputy Chief	21.74
Captain	20.13
Lieutenant	18.52
Fire Fighter with CPR First Responder	16.11
Inspector; Electrical/Building	18.52
Probationary Fire Fighter	13.69
State Certified Fire Fighter Level I	16.91

- (5) State Certified Firefighters receive an additional 5% at any rank.

Emergency Center Union Employees

Weekly rates established by union contract. Rates shown for information purposes only.

Steps	I Start	II 6 mos.	III 18 mos.	IV 36 mos.	V 48 mos.	VI 60 mos.	VII 72 mos.
Dispatcher (3)	547.44	579.92	614.71	649.94	675.94	702.98	731.11

- (3) The base pay differential for evenings (3PM to 11PM) is 3% and for nights (11PM to 7AM) is 5%.

Police Union Employees

Weekly rates established by contract negotiation. Rates shown for information purposes only.

Steps	I Start	II 12 mos.	III 24 mos.
Patrolman	666.85	747.95	828.34

A Sergeant's base pay is equal to the maximum Patrolman's plus 15%.

Lieutenant's base pay is equal to the maximum Patrolman's plus 25%.

The base pay differential for evenings (4PM to 12AM) is 3% and for nights (12AM to 8AM) is 5%.

Other

EMT Pay (non-union)	35.75wk
---------------------	---------

Special Rates For Occasional Help

	Range of Compensation	
General Clerical	7.00hr.	10.30hr.
Laborer: Light Work	7.00hr.	11.33hr.
Seasonal Recreational Help	6.75hr.	15.45hr.

Positions With An Annual Stipend

	Annual Rate
Plumbing/Gas Inspector	11,737
Electrical Inspector	11,737
Asst. Plumbing/Gas Inspector	722
Asst.. Electrical Inspector	722
Asst.. Building Inspector	722
Sealer of Weights and Measures	1,648
Registrar of Voters	267
Deputy Fire Chief	1,500
Fire Dept. Captains	750
Fire Dept. Training Officer	500
Animal Inspector	3,570
Chairman Board of Health	764
Board of Health Members	432
Appeal Board Chairman	1,472

Elected Officials Other Than Full Time Employees*Rates shown for information purposes only*

	Annual Rate
Chairman/Selectmen	2,879
Selectmen	2,546
Chairman of the Assessors Board	2,569
Assessor Board Members	1,920

Contract Rates**Employee Contracts – Part Time**

	Rate
Building/Zoning Inspector	460.61wk.
Chief Appraiser	567.42wk.
MIS Systems Analyst	521.20wk.
Health Agent	50.00hr.

Employee Contracts – Full Time

	Annual Rate
Chief of Police	88,420

(Base pay computed at 1.8 times Patrolman salary, Step 3)

ARTICLE 2-2
General Town Appropriations

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded, that the Town raise and appropriate the sums for schools, highways, and all other Town expenses which are set forth in the recommended FY 2005 Fiscal year Budget column appearing in Appendix C of the Warrant Book [Excepting those items held].

Moderator read the corrections to the budget.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES, NO ITEMS HELD**Town of Hamilton - Budget Forecast**

	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	Budgeted	Recommended
	Actual	Actual	Actual	FY 2004	FY 2005
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>					
<u>SELECTMEN</u>					
Salaries	\$ 9,902	\$ 9,933	\$ 10,091	\$ 7,815	\$ 7,971
Expenses	\$ 21,120	\$ 17,481	\$ 15,833	\$ 15,250	\$ 14,250
Total	\$ 31,022	\$ 27,414	\$ 25,924	\$ 23,065	\$ 22,221

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Salaries	\$ 90,907	\$ 97,395	\$ 103,126	\$ 107,020	\$ 112,902
Expenses	\$ 9,879	\$ 8,813	\$ 6,789	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,270
Total	\$ 100,786	\$ 106,208	\$ 109,915	\$ 117,020	\$ 122,172

**FINANCE & ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Expenses	\$ 48	\$ 165	\$ 145	\$ 350	\$ 350
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FINANCE DEPT

Salaries	\$ 70,497	\$ 67,907	\$ 72,191	\$ 75,990	\$ 78,373
Expenses	\$ 3,169	\$ 2,314	\$ 2,416	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Computer Expense	\$ 54,300	\$ 52,291	\$ 51,588	\$ 53,300	\$ 50,253
Total	\$ 127,966	\$ 122,512	\$ 126,195	\$ 132,790	\$ 132,126

ASSESSORS

Salaries	\$ 107,139	\$ 101,752	\$ 107,439	\$ 113,284	\$ 118,206
Expenses	\$ 8,740	\$ 9,338	\$ 8,912	\$ 11,450	\$ 12,200
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Total	\$ 115,879	\$ 111,090	\$ 116,351	\$ 132,734	\$ 138,406

TREASURER & COLLECTOR

Salaries	\$ 101,724	\$ 103,014	\$ 110,413	\$ 118,129	\$ 123,677
Expenses	\$ 43,478	\$ 41,995	\$ 53,997	\$ 55,750	\$ 51,000
Total	\$ 145,202	\$ 145,009	\$ 164,410	\$ 173,879	\$ 174,677

TOWN COUNSEL

Salaries	\$ 20,250	\$ 20,250	\$ 10,125	\$ 20,250	\$ 20,250
Expenses	\$ 57,693	\$ 22,603	\$ 24,493	\$ 40,000	\$ 79,750
Total	\$ 77,943	\$ 42,853	\$ 34,618	\$ 60,250	\$ 100,000

PUBLIC BLDG & MAINT

Salaries	\$ 25,265	\$ 25,186	\$ 26,812	\$ 27,998	\$ 29,274
Expenses	\$ 53,134	\$ 54,103	\$ 49,283	\$ 60,000	\$ 59,300
Total	\$ 78,399	\$ 79,289	\$ 76,095	\$ 87,998	\$ 88,574

TOWN CLERK

Salaries	\$ 75,846	\$ 79,572	\$ 84,356	\$ 88,538	\$ 74,406
Expenses	\$ 8,952	\$ 7,836	\$ 5,954	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,500
Total	\$ 84,798	\$ 87,408	\$ 90,310	\$ 93,788	\$ 79,906

ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION

Salaries	\$ 858	\$ 1,010	\$ 834	\$ 1,051	\$ 1,051
Expenses	\$ 13,335	\$ 16,765	\$ 21,018	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500
Total	\$ 14,193	\$ 17,775	\$ 21,852	\$ 19,551	\$ 19,551

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Salaries	\$ 17,816	\$ 19,084	\$ 20,238	\$ 21,453	\$ 22,756
Expenses	\$ 3,041	\$ 3,352	\$ 3,425	\$ 2,780	\$ 1,923
Total	\$ 20,857	\$ 22,436	\$ 23,663	\$ 24,233	\$ 24,679

PLANNING BOARD

Salaries	\$ 16,379	\$ 26,711	\$ 20,727	\$ 21,546	\$ 22,488
Expenses	\$ 4,106	\$ 3,769	\$ 2,091	\$ 4,320	\$ 4,320
Total	\$ 20,485	\$ 30,480	\$ 22,818	\$ 25,866	\$ 26,808

BOARD OF APPEALS

Salaries	\$ 1,346	\$ 694	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,443	\$ 1,472
Expenses	\$ 270	\$ 1,229	\$ 1,445	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,650
Total	\$ 1,616	\$ 1,923	\$ 2,860	\$ 3,093	\$ 3,122

PERSONNEL BOARD

Expenses	\$ 200	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 350	\$ 350
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CHEBACCO WOODS

Expenses	\$ 7,676	\$ 220	\$ 1,666	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600
Total	\$ 7,676	\$ 220	\$ 1,666	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 827,070	\$ 794,902	\$ 816,942	\$ 896,567	\$ 934,542
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PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPPOLICE

Salaries	\$ 845,075	\$ 898,788	\$ 954,031	\$ 1,102,120	\$ 1,180,363
Expenses	\$ 148,406	\$ 146,198	\$ 148,288	\$ 61,500	\$ 61,500
Capital	\$ 26,997	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500	\$ 28,000	\$ 28,000
Total	\$ 1,020,478	\$ 1,072,486	\$ 1,129,819	\$ 1,191,620	\$ 1,269,863

FIRE

Salaries	\$ 239,963	\$ 296,745	\$ 317,477	\$ 366,191	\$ 371,501
Expenses	\$ 90,506	\$ 100,267	\$ 73,757	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
Total	\$ 330,469	\$ 397,012	\$ 391,234	\$ 448,191	\$ 453,501

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000
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INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

Salaries	\$ 74,137	\$ 78,002	\$ 79,873	\$ 84,168	\$ 85,655
Expenses	\$ 10,844	\$ 10,802	\$ 9,385	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000
Total	\$ 84,981	\$ 88,804	\$ 89,258	\$ 93,168	\$ 94,655

SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Salaries	\$ 1,212	\$ 1,125	\$ 1,616	\$ 1,616	\$ 1,616
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 422	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 500
Total	\$ 1,212	\$ 1,547	\$ 2,616	\$ 2,116	\$ 2,116

CIVILIAN DEFENSE

Expenses	\$ 2,582	\$ 3,081	\$ 3,121	\$ 3,250	\$ 3,250
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ANIMAL CONTROL

Salaries	\$ 7,086	\$ 6,936	\$ 9,869	\$ 12,200	\$ 12,444
Expenses	\$ 5,961	\$ 2,178	\$ 4,928	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 13,047	\$ 9,114	\$ 14,797	\$ 17,200	\$ 17,444

POLICE & FIRE STATION

Expenses	\$ 30,473	\$ 28,666	\$ 38,805	\$ 39,100	\$ 39,100
Total	\$ 30,473	\$ 28,666	\$ 38,805	\$ 39,100	\$ 39,100

EMERGENCY REPORT CENTER

Salaries	\$ 202,537	\$ 189,580	\$ 213,771	\$ 231,796	\$ 244,855
Expenses	\$ 29,156	\$ 30,913	\$ 36,861	\$ 31,722	\$ 31,722
Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000
Total	\$ 231,693	\$ 220,493	\$ 250,632	\$ 271,518	\$ 288,577

TOTAL PROTECT OF PERSONS	\$ 1,714,935	\$ 1,821,203	\$ 1,920,282	\$ 2,066,163	\$ 2,203,506
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SCHOOLSREGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Expenses	\$ 8,471,336	\$ 9,671,950	\$10,140,578	\$10,535,103	\$ 10,956,506
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TOTAL SCHOOLS	\$ 8,471,336	\$ 9,671,950	\$10,140,578	\$10,535,103	\$ 10,956,506
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HIGHWAY

HIGHWAY/DPW DEPARTMENT

Salaries	\$ 339,580	\$ 346,687	\$ 352,366	\$ 376,679	\$ 346,229
Expenses Highway	\$ 68,874	\$ 85,702	\$ 75,500	\$ 73,500	\$ 82,500
Expenses DPW	\$ 69,422	\$ 59,901	\$ 66,099	\$ 63,700	\$ 63,700
Capital	\$ 85,305	\$ 99,680	\$ 92,263	\$ 47,000	\$ 70,000
Total	\$ 563,181	\$ 591,870	\$ 586,228	\$ 560,879	\$ 562,429

SNOW REMOVAL

Salaries	\$ 41,849	\$ 18,907	\$ 45,776	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Expenses	\$ 103,140	\$ 49,101	\$ 71,784	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Total	\$ 144,989	\$ 68,008	\$ 117,560	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000

STREET LIGHTING

Expenses	\$ 40,439	\$ 40,802	\$ 40,975	\$ 45,000	\$ 43,000
TOTAL HIGHWAY	\$ 748,609	\$ 700,680	\$ 744,763	\$ 680,879	\$ 680,429

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICESSANITATION COLLECTION & DISPOSAL

Expenses	\$ 602,810	\$ 480,534	\$ 486,999	\$ 499,000	\$ 510,122
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CEMETERY

Salaries	\$ 36,089	\$ 36,492	\$ 37,579	\$ 38,113	\$ 38,519
Expenses	\$ 7,103	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,956	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 43,192	\$ 46,492	\$ 45,535	\$ 48,113	\$ 48,519

BOARD OF HEALTH

Salaries	\$ 75,718	\$ 77,794	\$ 66,290	\$ 84,517	\$ 85,827
Expenses	\$ 12,867	\$ 14,978	\$ 11,944	\$ 16,550	\$ 15,996
Total	\$ 88,585	\$ 92,772	\$ 78,234	\$ 101,067	\$ 101,823

COUNCIL ON AGING

Expenses	\$ 4,355	\$ 5,100	\$ 10,093	\$ 10,302	\$ 10,302
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VETERAN BENEFITS

Expenses	\$ 27,864	\$ 30,067	\$ 21,274	\$ 21,274	\$ 22,851
Regional District Assessment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Total	\$ 27,864	\$ 30,067	\$ 21,274	\$ 22,274	\$ 23,851

TOTAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

	\$ 766,806	\$ 654,965	\$ 642,135	\$ 680,756	\$ 694,617
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JOINT PROGRAMSLIBRARY

Salaries	\$ 187,449	\$ 22,114	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -
Joint Expenses	\$ 116,208	\$ 408,822	\$ 460,991	\$ 415,007	\$ 418,886
Joint Admin Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,728	\$ 38,640
Total	\$ 303,657	\$ 430,936	\$ 470,991	\$ 456,735	\$ 457,526

TOTAL LIBRARY

	\$ 303,657	\$ 430,936	\$ 470,991	\$ 456,735	\$ 457,526
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ELDER VAN PROGRAM

Joint Elder Van Admin Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,087
Joint Elder Van Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,000	\$ 30,871

Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ -
TOTAL ELDER VAN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,000	\$ 33,958

PARKS & RECREATIONRECREATION

Salaries	\$ 54,369	\$ 61,450	\$ 72,047	\$ 65,792	\$ 77,209
Expenses	\$ 3,769	\$ 7,173	\$ 15,792	\$ 16,332	\$ 18,000
Total	\$ 58,138	\$ 68,623	\$ 87,839	\$ 82,124	\$ 95,209

PARK DEPARTMENT

Salaries	\$ 46,236	\$ 45,946	\$ 47,430	\$ 48,925	\$ 49,738
Expenses	\$ 11,812	\$ 10,584	\$ 13,814	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500
Capital	\$ 951	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 58,999	\$ 56,530	\$ 61,244	\$ 61,425	\$ 62,238

TOTAL PARKS & RECREATION	\$ 117,137	\$ 125,153	\$ 149,083	\$ 143,549	\$ 157,447
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UNCLASSIFIEDMEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Expenses	\$ 1,730	\$ 1,813	\$ 1,838	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900
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ESSEX COUNTY RETIREMENT

General Pensions	\$ 272,930	\$ 358,465	\$ 343,387	\$ 370,006	\$ 394,545
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 272,930	\$ 358,465	\$ 343,387	\$ 370,006	\$ 394,545

EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE

Expenses	\$ 285,789	\$ 322,077	\$ 394,668	\$ 430,632	\$ 403,053
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FICA/MEDICARE

Expenses	\$ 53,120	\$ 54,017	\$ 57,358	\$ 58,000	\$ 59,027
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GENERAL INSURANCE

Expenses	\$ 84,092	\$ 86,689	\$ 115,452	\$ 148,700	\$ 163,570
				\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 84,092	\$ 86,689	\$ 115,452	\$ 148,700	\$ 163,570

MUNICIPAL AUDIT

Expenses	\$ 9,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 19,900
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TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	\$ 706,661	\$ 835,061	\$ 924,703	\$ 1,027,238	\$ 1,041,995
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DEBT - PRINCIPAL & INTERESTINTEREST

Interest - Joint Library	\$ -	\$ 111,378	\$ 97,878	\$ 87,998	\$ 83,198
Interest - Moulton St. Bridge	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,200	\$ 4,800
Interest - Water Filtration	\$ 82,105	\$ 94,376	\$ 94,376	\$ 84,566	\$ 79,706
Total	\$ 82,105	\$ 205,754	\$ 192,254	\$ 179,763	\$ 167,703

PRINCIPAL

Principal - Joint Library	\$ 100,080	\$ 124,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000
Principal - Moulton St. Bridge	\$ -	\$ 66,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
Principal - Water Filtration	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000
Total	\$ 190,080	\$ 280,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 270,000

SCHOOL DEBT

Principal & Interest - 1988 School Add/Repr	\$ 79,785	\$ 76,715	\$ 78,337	\$ 70,404	\$ 133,937
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Principal & Interest - 1997 Middle School	\$ 443,553	\$ 436,267	\$ 428,448	\$ 425,137	\$ 445,236
Principal & Interest - 2002 Boller	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106,742	\$ 118,097	\$ 114,761
Total	\$ 523,338	\$ 512,982	\$ 613,527	\$ 613,638	\$ 693,934
TOTAL DEBT - PRIN & INT	\$ 795,523	\$ 998,736	\$ 1,080,781	\$ 1,063,401	\$ 1,131,637

TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$14,451,734	\$16,033,586	\$16,890,258	\$17,572,391	\$ 18,292,163
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ARTICLE Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town approve the Water
2-3 Enterprise Budget.

Water
Enterprise
Budget

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

	Town of Hamilton-Budget Forecast				
	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	Budgeted FY 2004	Recommended FY 2005
<u>Water</u>					
<u>Enterprise</u>					
<u>Fund</u>					
Income	\$702,847	\$767,915	\$781,000	\$741,000	\$856,000
Lein Revenue	\$26,838		\$12,000	-	
Miscellaneous	\$10,600	\$4,735	\$12,000	\$2,000	\$2,700
Income					
Interest Income	\$3,822	\$953	-	\$503	\$400
Ban Premium			\$500	-	
Total	\$744,107	\$773,603	\$805,500	\$743,503	\$859,100
Wages	\$140,072	\$128,778	\$145,354	\$154,079	\$160,904
Administrative	\$30,234	\$32,220	\$33,501	\$34,467	\$35,020
Assistant					
Longevity-All	\$300	\$600	\$600	\$2,700	\$2,700
Eligible EMPL.					
Contract	\$9,871	\$9,288	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Services					
Utilities	\$77,915	\$62,998	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Fuel/Vehicle	\$4,362	\$5,702	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
R&M					
Overtime	\$61,661	\$41,138	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$30,000
Clerical	\$343	\$100	\$700	\$700	\$700
Overtime					
Well	\$54,952	\$29,983	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Maintenance					
Expenses	\$17,562	\$23,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000
Water	-	-	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$52,000
Treatment					
Operating					
Water	-	-	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Emergency					
Fund					
System	\$39,893	\$49,594	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Maintenance					
Meters	\$2,893	\$2,381	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$35,000
Debt	\$206,796	\$184,376	\$179,425	\$174,566	\$169,706
SVC/Borrow					
Costs					
General Fund	\$119,335	\$119,335	\$119,335	\$119,335	\$119,335
Transfers					
Water ENT	\$16,333	\$93,196	-	-	-
Capital Project					
Retained	-	-	-	\$(36,844)	-
Earning					
Transfer					
Total	\$782,522	\$782,689	\$753,415	\$743,503	\$809,365
Net Operating	\$(38,415)	\$(9,086)	\$(52,085)	-	\$49,735
Surplus					
(Deficit)					

ARTICLE 2-4
*Annual
 Financial
 Actions*

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded, that the Town will take the following action:

- A. Raise and appropriate a sum of money for the Finance and Advisory Committee's **Reserve Account**; \$110,000
- B. Transfer a sum of money from the **Cemetery Sale of Lots and Graves Account** to be used for cemetery purposes; \$2,000
- C. Transfer a sum of money from the **Cemetery Perpetual Care Account** to be used for cemetery purposes; \$10,000
- D. Transfer a sum of money from the **Clark Property Account** to the **Conservation Fund**; \$2582.72
- E. Transfer a sum of money from the **Ambulance Receipts Account** to offset the Police Department budget; \$120,000
- F. Appropriate the local share of fees collected under the Wetlands Protection Act and deposited in the **Wetlands Protection Fund** to be used for conservation purposes by the Conservation Commission;
- G. Reauthorize the **Compost Bin Revolving Fund** and the **Recreation Revolving Fund** as required by G.L., Ch. 44, Sec. 53E1/2 and Sec. 53 D;
- H. Raise and appropriate monies for operating costs of the town ambulance and to authorize offsetting of estimated receipts from user fees, pursuant to G.L., Ch. 44, Sec. 53E; \$35,000, which was included in Article 2-2.
- I. Appropriate monies made available under G.L., Ch. 90 for reconstruction and improvements of town streets. \$129,026

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 2-5
*School
 Operating
 Budget Override
 Question 1*

Moved by Elaine Carey, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate \$581,612 to be raised contingent upon the passage of a referendum question pursuant to G.L. Ch. 59, Sec. 21C(g), and also contingent upon the Town of Wenham appropriating its proportionate share, for Hamilton's share of the operating budget of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District, as voted by the School Committee on March 31, 2004, *such referendum question to be voted upon by ballot at the Annual Town Election to be held on May 13, 2004 at the Winthrop School from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The ballot question text is set forth in Appendix A, Question 1 of this Warrant, and is incorporated herein by reference.*

Moderator recognized Elaine Carey of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee who introduced Dr. Marinel McGrath, Superintendent of Schools. Dr. McGrath gave an explanation of why the school was asking the Town for this override. She thanked everyone for their attendance and asked them for their support in this measure. Jim Bryant thanked Dr. McGrath and Bill Bowler for an excellent job on the budget and said he too supports the override.

Without any further discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

Ballot Question #1: Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional \$581,612 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding Hamilton's apportioned share of the net operating cost of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004?

ARTICLE 2-6

*Feasibility
Study for
Septage
Disposal
Improvement*

Moved by Peter Twining, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate \$70,000 from the Stabilization Fund to fund a study of the types of shared septage disposal systems that would be appropriate for the Hamilton downtown business district.

After a lengthy discussion by Peter Twining, the Moderator reminded residents this measure requires a 2/3 vote, then called for the vote.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES
MODERATOR DECLARES 2/3 VOTE**

ARTICLE 2-7

*Affordable
Housing
Production Plan*

Moved by Rick Mitchell, duly seconded, that the Town raise and appropriate \$15,000 to create an affordable housing plan consistent with the regulations and guidelines of the Department of Housing and Community Development and G.L. c. 40B.

After presentation by Rick Mitchell, the Selectmen and Finance Committee expressed their support for this measure and the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 2-8

*North Shore
Regional
Vocational
School District*

Moved by David Ketcham, duly seconded, that the Town approve the \$7,902,366 gross operating and maintenance budget of the North Shore Regional Vocational School District and that the Town raise and appropriate \$146,772 for the Town's assessment from the NSRVSD.

Mr. Ketcham explained this represents the cost of sending 16 students from Hamilton-Wenham to NSRVSD.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 2-9

*Call Firefighter/
Reserve Police
Death/Total
Disability
Benefit*

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town take no action on this article since it is still awaiting Home Rule Petition.

Bill explained this is already an item in the budget after being approved at last year's Town Meeting at a cost of \$15,000 a year for Catastrophic Insurance. Had the Legislature passed the bill, it could have been adopted by the Town.

There being no discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES (To Take NO ACTION)

ARTICLE 2-10

*Call Firefighter/
Reserve Police
Local Option*

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded, that the Town accept the provisions of G.L. c. 36B, sec. 2, as amended by ch. 46, sec. 12 of the Acts and Resolves of 2003.

Moderator called for vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 3-1
Street
Improvements
Capital
Exclusion
Question 2

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate \$188,000 contingent upon the passage of a referendum question pursuant to G.L., Ch. 59, Sec. 21C (i ½), for street improvements and any related sidewalk improvements during the twelfth year of a twelve-year street improvement plan; *such referendum question to be voted upon by ballot at the Annual Town Election to be held on May 13, 2004 at the Winthrop School from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; the ballot question is set forth in Appendix A, Question 2, of this Warrant, and is incorporated herein by reference.*

After discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

Ballot Question #2: Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional \$188,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for street improvements during the twelfth year of a twelve year plan for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004?

ARTICLE 3-2
Improvements to
Municipal
Parking Lot at
Depot Square

Moved by Peter Twining, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate \$70,000 from the Stabilization Fund to be spent in part in FY'04 for the Town's share of the cost of repaving the surface and installing curbing and storm drains of the municipal parking lot at Depot Square, pursuant to a 3-party agreement by and among the Town, Talbot's and Drew Marc-Aurele and Jane M. O'Leary, jointly.

Moderator called for vote and reminded residents this motion requires a 2/3 vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES
MODERATOR DECLARED A 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE 3-3
Irrigation/
Outside Water
Use
By-law

Moderator explained the correction to this by-law. On page 25 of the Warrant Book, 6th paragraph of the by-law, substitute "rain sensors" for "soil moisture sensors."

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded, that the Town adopt an Irrigation/Outside Water Use By-law to be known as Chapter XXVI of the Town By-laws by adopting the language set forth in Appendix E of the Warrant Book for this Meeting, with the correction read by the Moderator.

After discussion Moderator called for vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

APPENDIX E
(Article 3-3)

Outside Irrigation/Outside Water usage By-Law

CHAPTER XXVI

Preamble: The Hamilton Board of Selectmen, in its capacity as Water Commissioners, proposes the following by-law in an effort to try and create balanced between the needs of the environment, our ground water supply, the citizens of Hamilton and Hamilton's public water distribution system. The board is aware of the concerns about lower ground water levels and the potential demand on its water resources during the dry summer months. They are also aware of the therapeutic, esthetic and environmental benefits, citizens to maintain their properties, not overburden Town water supplies or delivery systems and make a positive contribution to the environment. We

ask that all our citizens that are not customers of the public water supply use this by-law as a guideline for their private wells and irrigation systems, for we all benefit from a healthy, bountiful water table.

IRRIGATION/OUTSIDE WATERING BY-LAW

This by-law is in effect from **May 15 to September 15** each year. This time period may be extended or decreased by vote of the Board of Selectmen, as they deem necessary, taking various conditions into consideration, including but not limited to weather, protection of the Town's water supply, compliance with Commonwealth regulations and demands on our pumping equipment.

This by-law is automatically superseded in the event of a declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation, described in Chapter XXV, Section 4 of the Town By-laws.

It is unlawful to perform outside watering of vegetation between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm. Using town water through a sprinkler or lawn irrigation system.

All water hoses will be controlled by a nozzle, sprinkler or other device to regulate the flow of water leaving the hose. No use of an open-ended hose will be permitted with the exception of filling or topping off of swimming pools.

All outside spigots, especially those used for filling pools or using chemical spray hose attachments will be retrofitted with an **antisiphon device** to prevent back siphonage into the water supply or household.

All existing automatic underground irrigation systems will have **soil moisture sensors** wired into them to prevent unnecessary watering.

Exemptions from this by-law as well as the Water Use Restriction by-law will be recognized if watering is done through drip irrigation hoses or other devices that use subsurface applications and prevent the water from being evaporated through direct contact with the atmosphere, through the use of water from cisterns and "rain barrel" that device their water directly from precipitation, recycled water, storm water run off, gray water or water not acquired directly from ground or surface water supplies or the public water system.

Penalties

First Offense: DPW will deliver a copy of the by-law to the property owner and/or leaseholder. DPW will keep record of the offense.

Second offense: DPW will deliver another copy of the by-law and visit the property owner and/or leaseholder to ensure that there is no misunderstanding, honest mistakes or communication problems with the property holders/leaseholders or grounds keepers.

Third and subsequent offenses: The Board of Selectmen will hold a hearing, with notice to the property owner and/or leaseholder, at which it will hear evidence of violations of the by-law. It may take such action as the Board deems appropriate, which may include water termination, water use surcharges or fines of up to \$50.00 per violation. Fines shall be recovered by indictment, or on complaint before the District Court, or by non-criminal disposition in a concordance with Section 21D of Chapter 40 of the General Laws. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

Footnote:

We strongly encourage all new and existing, automatic sprinkler systems to install an Evapotranspiration (ET) based monitoring system or similar. This offers a substantial savings in water usage and water bills.

ARTICLE 3-4
Weaver Pond
Capital
Exclusion
Question 3

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate \$65,600 contingent upon the passage of a referendum question pursuant to G.L., Ch. 59, Sec. 21C (i ½), to dredge Weaver Pond, dispose of excavated material and stabilize the banks, including installation of an aeration fountain in the pond; *such referendum question to be voted upon by ballot at the Annual Town Election to be held on May 13, 2004 at the Winthrop School from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; the ballot question is set forth in Appendix A, Question 3, of this Warrant, and is incorporated herein by reference.*

The Selectmen unanimously support this article.

Moderator called for vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

Ballot Question 3: Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional \$65,600 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of dredging and improving Weaver Pond for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004?

ARTICLE 3-5
Highland Street
Bridge

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with the Town of Ipswich for the joint repair of the Highland Street bridge over the Ipswich River, and further to appropriate \$60,000 from the Stabilization Fund for the Town's share of the funds needed to repair the bridge, provided that Ipswich appropriates an equal amount for its share.

Moderator reminded voters this motion requires a 2/3rds vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES
MODERATOR DECLARED A 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE 3-6
Citizens' Petition
Highland Street
Sidewalk

Moved by Susan Kassirer, duly seconded, that the Town appropriate \$33,000 from monies made available under G.L. c. 90 for construction of a retaining wall and sidewalk along Highland Street between Linden Street and the Wenham Town line.

Ms. Kassirer gave a brief explanation of the sidewalk loop for safety.

Brad Kimball, Chairman Road Safety Committee spoke in favor of this article.

The Moderator recognized Paul Ricker of the Board of Selectmen.

Paul Ricker along with DPW, Selectmen and Finance Committee explained because of our fiscal crisis, it has been decided to do this project in 2 phases with the cooperation of Wenham and their Selectmen based on the financial restraints.

Mr. Ricker has made a motion to amend the motion on the floor.

The procedure is to vote 1st on whether or not to accept the amendment and determine the main motion.

Moderator reread the amendment – that the Town amend the motion on the floor, to divide the Highland St. retaining wall and sidewalk project into two phases, the first phase, from Lake Drive to the Hamilton-Wenham Town line, to be constructed with Chapter 90 funds during FY'05, for no more than \$18,500, and contingent upon the agreement by the Town of Wenham to build a connecting segment in Wenham during FY'05, from the Town line to the existing sidewalk on Arbor Street, at a location mutually agreed to by the public safety officials of each town.

Moderator asked all in favor of the amendment to substitute the language just read, as the main motion under this article.

**VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES (TO ACCEPT THIS
AMENDMENT AS A SUBSTITUE TO THE
MAIN MOTION.)**

Moderator called for a vote on the substitute motion as the main motion in this article.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 3-7
Web Site Design

Motion of Bill Bowler, duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate \$10,000 for a one time set up of an expanded web site capability.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 4-1
*Town By-law
Amendment
Permit Denials*

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded that the Town amend Chapter V, Section 3E of the Town By-laws to add the following to the existing list of licenses and permits:

10. Business certificates
11. Alcohol licenses
12. Board of Health permits.

With no discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

MOTION PASSES: VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 4-2
*Town By-law
Amendment
Street
Numbering*

Moved by Dan Ellison of the Hamilton Fire Department, duly seconded that the Town amend Chapter XII of the Town By-laws by adding the following:

SECTION 12. No permit, certificate, or license from the Town or any of its departments shall be issued to any building or establishment unless the same has a street number conspicuously placed in accordance with Section 9 of this by-law.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 4-3
Land Acquisition

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the Boston & Maine Corporation's offer to deed a parcel of land, Assessor's Map 47, Plot 85 to the Town in lieu of taxes owed.

The Moderator reminded residents this motion requires a 2/3rds vote.

After some discussion, the Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 4-4
*Implementation
 of Property Tax
 Exemption*

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded that the Town take no action on this article pending legislative action.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES TO TAKE NO ACTION

ARTICLE 4-5
*Petition to the
 Legislature
 Chebacco Woods
 Encroachment*

Moved by Bill Bowler, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature to allow the Town to swap a parcel of Chebacco Woods conservation land, which parcel is shown as Parcel B on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Hamilton, MA" dated March 17, 2004, by Hancock Associates, said plan on file with the Town Clerk, for a parcel of abutting private land shown of said plan as Parcel A, provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire said Parcel A for incorporation into the Chebacco Woods conservation land jointly owned by the Town and Manchester-by-the-Sea; and further to authorize the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen to execute and deliver a deed and any related instruments to effect the transfer said Parcel B from the joint ownership of Manchester-by-the-Sea and Hamilton to the current owner of said Parcel A; all such conveyances to be at no cost to the Town and upon such further terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate.

The Moderator reminded residents this motion requires a 2/3rds vote.

Lisa Press of the Conservation Commission reported that this proposal must pass several steps and has been approved by Manchester at their Town Meeting.

After discussion, Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 4-6
*Petition to the
 Legislature
 Whistle Law
 Relief*

Moved by Jim Bryant, duly seconded that the Town authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to exempt the railroad crossings in the Town of Hamilton from the sounding of train whistles provided that the crossings are protected by warning devices; and provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objective of this petition.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ARTICLE 4-7
Prior Year Bill

Moved by Paul Ricker, duly seconded that the Town raise and appropriate \$819.00 to pay a bill incurred in a prior fiscal year.

The Moderator reminded residents this motion requires a 4/5ths vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

ARTICLE 4-8
Zoning By-law
Amendment

The Moderator explained to residents there were corrections on a few pages of Appendix F of the Warrant Book. The corrections were listed on a handout that was distributed to residents as they entered. Ushers passed extra copies out to those who needed them.

Moved by Peter Clark, duly seconded that the Town amend the Zoning By-law, Section V. 12 by deleting the Flexible Plan Subdivision and replacing it with the language of the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development set forth in Appendix F to the Warrant Book for this Meeting with the amendments set forth in the handout to this meeting, a copy of which shall be included with the minutes to this Town Meeting.

The Moderator reminded residents this motion requires a 2/3rds vote.

After extensive discussion from members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board, and residents, the Moderator called for the vote.

CARD VOTE: MOTION FAILED

HAMILTON PLANNING BOARD
AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED ZONING BYLAW ARTICLES
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF MAY 3, 2004

Amendments to Article 4-8, Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development (OSFPD)

(Note: page numbers refer to Appendix F in the Warrant)

1. Section V.12.b.1) (Page 27): in Line 2, **strike** the words *under one ownership or*.
2. Section V.12.e (Page 28): in Line 2, after the word *may* **add** the word *not*.
 That portion of the sentence will read as follows: *The common open space in an OSFPD definitive subdivision plan or site plan may not be further subdivided...*
3. Section V.12.k.1) (Page 31): in Line 3, **delete** the words *Whenever possible*, **capitalize** the letter "T" in "*the Planning Board*", and after the word *invite* **strike** the words *other Town boards* and **add**: *all other land use boards*
 That sentence will read as follows: *The Planning Board shall invite all other land use boards to the pre-submission conference and site walk.*
4. Section V.12.l. (top of Page 32): in Line 2, after *Registered Landscape Architect*, **add** a *comma* and the words *Registered Professional Civil Engineer, or Registered Architect*,.
 That portion of the sentence will read as follows: *...performed by a Registered Landscape Architect, Registered Professional Civil Engineer, or Registered Architect, according to the following sequence of steps:*
5. Section V.12.m.3) (Page 33): in Line 7, after *Registered Landscape Architect*, **add** a *comma* and the words *Registered Professional Civil Engineer, or Registered Architect*,.
 That portion of the sentence will read as follows: *...prepared by a Registered Landscape Architect, Registered Professional Civil Engineer, or Registered Architect, or by a multidisciplinary team of which one member must be a Registered Landscape Architect.*

6. Section V.12.n.1) (Page 34): in Line 6, after the words *Fire Chief* **add** a *comma* and the words *Zoning Board of Appeals*.
7. Section V.12.o. (Page 34): **strike** all text and **replace** with the words *The Planning Board shall adopt rules, regulations and development design guidelines consistent with this bylaw, and incorporate the same in the OSFPD Submission Requirements and Procedures referred to in Section 12.m.*
8. Section V.12.t.4) (Page 40): in Line 4, after the words *Fire Chief* **add** a *comma* and the words *Zoning Board of Appeals*.

Amendments to Article 4-9, Definitions

(Page 44) **Strike** the first section headed *Building* entirely. The existing definition as written in the bylaw will remain. That definition is:

Building: A structure having a roof or cover and forming a shelter for persons, animals or property.

Article F **Section V. Uses**

12. Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development by Special Permit from the Planning Board.

- a. **Purposes and Intent.** The purposes of Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development (OSFPD) Bylaw are to:
 - 1) Protect open space, agricultural and forestry land, wildlife habitat and corridors, wetlands and water resources, and historical and archeological resources, in a manner consistent with the goals of the Hamilton Master Plan;
 - 2) Encourage creative, environmentally sensitive design in residential developments;
 - 3) Encourage a more efficient form of development that consumes less open land and respects existing topography and natural features better than a conventional or grid subdivision;
 - 4) Minimize the total amount of disturbance on the site;
 - 5) Preserve and enhance the Town's character;
 - 6) Provide a variety of housing choices for all ages and incomes; and
 - 7) Reduce the anticipated negative fiscal impact on the Town associated with conventional residential development.
 - 8) The intent of this bylaw is to preserve the best part of a parcel being subdivided as open space land in exchange for clustered development, minimum road lengths, and density bonus objectives that would be awarded for larger areas preserved, for senior citizen housing project, and for affordable housing deed restrictions.
- b. **Applicability.** In the R-1a, R-1b or RA Districts, any of the following shall require a OSFPD special permit from the Planning Board subject to the provisions of this Bylaw:
 - 1) Any division of land into five or more lots or any development of five or more dwelling units, on a parcel of ten or more acres of land under one ownership or on contiguous parcels in common ownership containing together ten or more acres of land on the effective date of this Bylaw. For purposes of this section, a division of land includes any division of land subject to G.L. c. 41, Sections 81K-81-GG.
 - 2) Subdivisions, divisions of land or developments may not be segmented to avoid compliance with this Bylaw.
 - 3) The Planning Board shall determine whether the proposed location is suitable for an OSFPD under the terms and provisions of this Bylaw. If the Planning Board determines that the proposed location is suitable for an OSFPD, any further division, subdivision or development of the land shall be accomplished only through the provisions of this Bylaw. If

the Planning Board determines, after discussion and analysis under Sections 12.m-12.n that the location is best suited for development as a conventional division or subdivision of land, the Planning Board shall so inform the applicant in accordance with the procedures of Section 12.p, and the applicant may then proceed to design and submit a conventional plan in accordance with the Planning Board Subdivision Regulations.

- 4) Nothing in this section shall prohibit application for an OSFPD Special Permit on a parcel or contiguous parcels consisting of less than ten acres in size, or resulting in a division of land into fewer than five lots or consisting of fewer than five new dwelling units.
- c. Special Permit Requirement. The Planning Board may authorize an OSFPD pursuant to the grant of a special permit for a Development Concept Plan. Such special permits shall be acted upon in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw and are referred to hereinafter as a Development Concept Plan special permit.
 - d. Relationship to Subdivision Control. A subdivision plan is not required for an OSFPD, but an applicant who proposes a subdivision plan shall submit the same to the Planning Board in accordance with the Hamilton Subdivision Regulations following approval of a Development Concept Plan special permit.
 - e. Future Subdivision. The common open space in an OSFPD definitive subdivision plan or site plan may be further subdivided, and a notation to this effect shall be placed on the plan of record, which shall be recorded at the Registry of Deeds.
 - f. Permitted Uses. An OSFPD may include the following uses:
 - 1) Single-family detached dwellings.
 - 2) Semi-attached dwellings and two-family dwellings.
 - 3) Townhouse dwellings, not to exceed four dwelling units in a single building.
 - 4) Multi-family buildings, not to exceed six dwelling units in a single multi-family building.
 - 5) Open space and conservation areas.
 - 6) Passive recreation, including trails for walking, hiking, cross country skiing, and horseback riding, and areas for other low-impact activities such as picnicking and wildlife observation.
 - 7) Agricultural, equestrian and horticultural uses.
 - 8) Accessory recreational uses, such as a tennis court or playground.
 - g. Common Open Space; Use, Shape, Location. An OSFPD must provide at least 50% of the total land area as permanently protected, usable open space that is functional for purposes intended by this Bylaw. The open space shall have no structures, parking, private yards, patios, or gardens that are restricted for the exclusive or principal use by residents of individual dwelling units. The following additional performance standards apply to the minimum required common open space in an OSFPD:
 - 1) To the maximum extent feasible, the open space shall be undisturbed, unaltered and left in its natural condition. It shall be appropriate in size, shape, dimension, location, and character to assure its use as a conservation area, or where appropriate, a recreational area, and serve as a visual and natural amenity for the development and the Town.
 - 2) At least 50% of the common open space shall be contiguous and linked as a unit, with links at least 75 feet wide.
 - 3) Common open space shall be functional for wildlife habitat, passive recreation, resource preservation, agriculture or equestrian uses.
 - 4) The location(s) of the common open space shall be subject to approval by the Planning Board.
 - 5) Each parcel of common open space shall offer adequate access to residents of the OSFPD. Toward that end, and to achieve more compact cluster design, the nearest part of the common open space shall not be more than three hundred (300) feet in distance from the

nearest point of any building that it is proposed to serve.

- 6) The common open space may be used to site a common or shared septic system.
 - 7) Not more than 50% of the common open space in an OSFPD may be located in a flood plain or consist of wetlands as defined in G.L. c.131, Section 40, or the Conservancy District as defined by Section V.C. of this Bylaw.
 - 8) Unless approved by the Planning Board, common open space shall not be considered usable if the slope of the finished grade exceeds thirty (30) percent.
 - 9) Existing utility easements may not be counted as common open space.
 - 10) Usable open space shall be open to the sky and pervious, except that:
 - a) Up to five percent (5%) of the minimum required open space may be subject to gravel roadways, pavement or structures accessory to the dedicated use or uses of the open space.
 - b) Principal or accessory structures and access roads essential to an agricultural use are exempt from this requirement.
- h. Ownership of Common Open Space. The common open space shall be conveyed in one or more of the following ways, subject to approval by the Planning Board:
- 1) To a corporation or trust comprising a homeowners association whose membership includes the owners of all lots or units contained in the development. The developer shall include in the deed to owners beneficial rights in said open land, and shall grant a perpetual conservation restriction to the Hamilton Conservation Commission or a non-profit corporation or organization over such land to insure that it be kept in an open state and not be built upon for residential use, or developed for accessory uses such as parking or roadways. Such restriction shall be in such form and substance as the Planning Board shall prescribe, and may contain such additional restrictions on development and use of the open space as the Planning Board may deem appropriate, subject to the approval of the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 184.
 - 2) To a non-profit organization, the principal purpose of which is the conservation of open space. The developer or non-profit organization shall grant an open space restriction as set forth above.
 - 3) To the Town for open space, a park or water supply use, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen, with a clause insuring that it be maintained for the purposes for which the land was conveyed to the Town. When the land is conveyed to the Town for open space, the open space shall be maintained by the Conservation Commission.
- i. Dimensional Standards. To maximize the amount of open space, reduce site disturbance and protect significant farmland or scenic landscapes, the Planning Board may waive the minimum requirements for lot area, frontage, front yard setback, building coverage and other dimensional requirements that would normally apply to land in the applicable zoning district, except as provided below.
- 1) Shared driveways and irregular lot shapes that do not conform to all of the requirements of Section VI.B.5 are permitted in an OSFPD when, in the opinion of the Planning Board, they further the purposes of the bylaw.
 - 2) Lots having reduced area or frontage shall not have frontage on a street other than a street created by the OSFPD, except that the Planning Board may waive this requirement where it is determined that such reduced lot(s) will further the goals of this bylaw.
 - 3) The minimum distance between clusters of townhouse or multiple-unit dwellings shall be fifty (50) feet, except that the Planning Board may waive this requirement where it is determined that a reduction in minimum distance between building clusters will further the goals of this bylaw.

- 4) The maximum height of proposed buildings shall be thirty-five (35) feet and shall not exceed two and one-half (2½) stories.
 - 5) At least 50% of the required front yard setback for the district shall be maintained on lots or between buildings within the OSFPD unless a reduction is authorized by the Planning Board. Setbacks from the perimeter lot lines of the parcel shall be maintained.
 - 6) Except as permitted in this Bylaw, any lot in an OSFPD shall comply with all other dimensional requirements of the zoning district in which it is located.
- j. Base Maximum Density; Determination of Development Capacity. The Basic Maximum Density shall be derived from a Yield Analysis that shows the maximum number of lots or dwelling units that reasonably could be placed on the site under a conventional subdivision. The maximum number of lots or dwelling units that could be achieved in a conventional subdivision is the Base Maximum Density for an OSFPD, except as provided under Section 12.v, Development Incentives. The Yield Analysis shall be prepared and submitted to the Planning Board in accordance with Section 12.m, Application Procedures.
- k. Pre-Submission Conference.
- 1) Applicants seeking an OSFPD Special Permit shall request a pre-submission conference with the Planning Board to review the scope of the project and the site for which it is proposed. Whenever possible, the Planning Board shall invite other Town boards to the pre-submission conference and site walk. Additional pre-submission meetings may be held by mutual agreement of the Planning Board and the applicant. At a minimum, the intent of the pre-submission conference shall be to:
 - a) Identify the key natural features of the proposed development site.
 - b) Identify historic or culturally important features of the site.
 - c) Identify any safety, traffic, or infrastructure issues directly related to the site.
 - d) Identify existing riding and walking trails on the site or on abutting parcels, and connections thereto. Every effort shall be made to preserve and improve existing trail networks.
 - e) Identify areas that the Town prefers to see preserved for open space, view shed, wildlife habitat, agricultural or agricultural buffer purposes.
 - f) Discuss the proposed plan and any issues relative to the Development Concept Plan special permit review criteria.
 - g) Discuss any issues relevant to OSFPD requirements.
 - h) Assist the developer in understanding all related permitting issues required for the project.
 - i) Set a timetable for submittal of a formal application
 - 2) At the expense of the applicant, the Planning Board may engage consultants to review the informal plans of the applicant and to facilitate submittal of a formal application for an OSFPD special permit.
 - 3) The Planning Board shall adopt rules and regulations relative to the size, form, number and contents of the plans to be submitted for a pre-application review.
- l. Open Space and Farmland Preservation Design Process. At the time of the application for a special permit for OSFPD, the applicant must demonstrate to the Planning Board that the layout of open space, roads and dwelling units in the Development Concept Plan is based on a design analysis performed by a Registered Landscape Architect according to the following sequence of steps:
- 1) Identification of conservation areas. The first step in the design process requires identification of conservation areas on the site, including wetlands, areas located in the Hamilton Conservancy District, riverfront areas, and floodplains regulated by state or

federal law; unprotected natural landscape features such as steep slopes, mature woodlands, prime farmland, meadows, wildlife habitats and wildlife corridors or connections thereto; cultural features such as historic and archeological sites and scenic views; and recreational features such as established trails used for horseback riding, walking and cross-country skiing. To the maximum extent feasible, conservation areas shall include areas identified by the Planning Board during the pre-submission conference.

- 2) Identification and delineation of the proposed development area. The second step in the design process is to define and delineate the proposed development area, i.e., the area that will contain buildings, roadways, other site improvements and amenities for residents of the development. To the maximum extent feasible, the proposed development area shall consist of land outside the identified conservation areas.
- 3) Location of dwelling units. The third step in the design process is to identify and delineate the approximate location of dwelling units in the proposed development area. The location of dwelling units should account for proximity to common open space and other amenities, including community buildings for use by residents of the development. Toward this end, the number of dwelling units with direct access to the amenities of the development should be maximized.
- 4) Roads and trails. The fourth step in the design process is to identify and delineate the approximate location of roads and trails. Roads should be aligned to access the dwelling units. The layout of new trails should anticipate internal and external connections to existing and/or potential future roads, trails and sidewalks.
- 5) Lotting. The final step in the design process is to identify the approximate location of lot lines if the OSFPD will require a definitive subdivision plan.

m. Application Procedures

- 1) Application. An application for a special permit for an OSFPD shall include a Development Concept Plan. The Development Concept Plan consists of a Sketch Plan and a Yield Analysis. The size, form, number and contents of the Sketch Plan and Yield analysis shall be set forth in Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development (OSFPD) Submission Requirements and Procedures adopted by the Planning Board and filed with the Town Clerk. After adoption of this Bylaw, the Planning Board shall prepare and adopt the OSFPD Submission Requirements and Procedures following a public hearing.
- 2) Sources of Data for the Development Concept Plan. The Development Concept Plan may be prepared from deed information, USGS topographical maps, FEMA floodplain maps, assessor's maps, orthophotographs, soil maps, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Wetlands Conservancy Program maps, and other existing data. The locations of wetlands, streams and forest limits or locations will not be verified during the Development Concept Plan special permit process unless the applicant has delineated the same in the field and applies to the Hamilton Conservation Commission for review and determination under G.L. c.131 Section 40. For the Development Concept Plan, it is not necessary to verify these constraints, but the applicant must be aware that these locations should be as accurate as possible in order to avoid significant changes to the Development Concept Plan.
- 3) Development Concept Plan: Minimum Required Information for Sketch Plan. The Sketch Plan is a schematic representation of the proposed development, with sufficient detail about existing and proposed conditions to enable the Planning Board and the public to understand what is being proposed and to be able to respond to the applicant's proposals in an informed manner. The Sketch Plan shall include scaled drawings prepared by a Registered Landscape Architect or by a multidisciplinary team of which one member must be a Registered Landscape Architect. The Sketch Plan shall incorporate the design process outlined in Section 12.1 and the Development Standards in Section 12.0 when determining a proposed design for the development. At minimum, a Sketch Plan shall provide the following information:
 - a) The location of the proposed development.
 - b) The size of the site in acres.

- c) An existing conditions inventory and description of conservation areas identified during the OSFPD Design Process.
 - d) The total number and approximate locations of the proposed buildings, dwelling units and/or lots, and the approximate size of each in square feet
 - e) The acreage and proposed use(s) of permanent open space.
 - f) A statement on the disposition or manner of ownership of the proposed open space.
 - g) The areas or approximate delineation of lots that will be used as building areas, and the areas or approximate delineation of lots that are to remain as permanent open space.
 - h) A general description of how drainage will be handled, including a soils statement (soil conservation survey is acceptable) and the general area of the site to be used for stormwater management facilities.
 - i) Sufficient detail of proposed built and natural features as described in Section 12.1 to enable the Planning Board to make the required determinations of Section 12.p.
- 4) Development Concept Plan: Required Information for Yield Analysis. The purpose of a Yield Analysis is to determine the maximum number of lots that reasonably could be achieved in a conventional subdivision layout, given the presence of natural building constraints on the site such as wetlands, floodplains, Conservancy District, and steep slopes, as identified on the Sketch Plan. The Yield Analysis may rely on existing data sources, including but not limited to those provided on the Sketch Plan. The applicant shall have the burden of proof with regard to the Basic Maximum Number of lots or dwelling units resulting from the design specifications and assumptions shown on the Yield Analysis.
- 5) After an OSFPD special permit application has been submitted, no tree removal, no utility installation, no ditching, grading or construction of roads, no grading of land or lots, no excavation, except for purposes of soil testing, no dredging or filling and no construction of buildings or structures shall be done on any part of the site until the application has been reviewed and approved as provided by these regulations.
- n. Review Process.
- 1) Whenever an application for a OSFPD Development Concept Plan special permit is filed with the Planning Board, the Planning Board shall, within five working days of the filing of a complete application, distribute copies of the application, accompanying development plan, and other documentation, to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Building Inspector, Department of Public Works, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Office on Disability for their consideration, review, and report. The applicant shall furnish the copies necessary to fulfill this requirement. Reports from other boards and officials shall be submitted to the Planning Board within sixty-five (65) days of receipt of the reviewing party of all of the required materials; failure of these reviewing parties to make recommendations after having received copies of all such required materials shall be deemed a lack of opposition thereto.
 - 2) The Planning Board shall hold a public hearing on the application in accordance with the requirements of G.L. c.40A, Sections 9 and 11, and Section VII.C of this Bylaw.
 - 3) In the event that the public hearing by the Planning Board is held prior to the expiration of the 65-day period, the Planning Board shall continue the public hearing to permit the formal submission of reports and recommendations within that 65-day period. The Planning Board's written decision on the special permit application shall contain an explanation for any departures from the recommendations of any reviewing party.
 - 4) Site Visit. The Planning Board and/or its designee(s) shall conduct a site visit prior to or during the public hearing. At the site visit, the Planning Board and/or its designee(s) shall be accompanied by the applicant and/or its agent(s).
 - 5) Other Information. The submittals and permits of this section shall be in addition to any other applicable requirements of the Hamilton Subdivision Regulations or any other provisions of the Hamilton Zoning Bylaw.

- o. Development Standards for OSFPD. In its consideration of an OSFPD Special Permit, the Planning Board shall give particular attention to, and shall use as a basis for its decision, all of the following criteria.
- 1) Basic Site Standards.
 - a) Lots, streets, off-street parking, sidewalks, pathways and buildings should achieve harmonious integration of the proposed development with surrounding properties.
 - b) Location of proposed subsurface disposal system(s) or wastewater disposal facility, including percolation and deepwater test results.
 - c) Overall layout and design should achieve the best possible relationship between the proposed development and the land under consideration.
 - d) Open space considerations.
 - (1) Site design should provide for appropriately sized and configured open spaces for active or passive recreation, and where possible, links to adjoining common open space areas.
 - (2) Passive and active recreational facilities should be of a size and scale appropriate for the number of units proposed.
 - (3) Access to open spaces should be barrier-free to serve the physically handicapped, elderly, and children.
 - (4) Tree-lined or otherwise appropriately landscaped pedestrian paths and walkways should link together areas designated as open space within the site, and wherever possible, to adjoining public areas.
 - (5) Existing riding and walking trails shall be preserved, and any obliterated trails shall be replaced to maintain and enhance connectivity.
 - (6) Accessible pedestrian-oriented features such as walkways, pergolas, outdoor sitting plazas, landscaped open space, drop-off areas, and recreational facilities should be emphasized.
 - (7) Significant open space and farmland that foster the goals of the most recent Hamilton Master Plan and Open Space and Recreation Plan, as determined by the Planning Board, should be preserved to the maximum extent feasible, particularly to preserve, enhance or provide scenic vistas or to preserve and protect historic resources.
 - (8) Large buffer areas, composed of existing vegetation, should be provided for around building groupings and building envelope areas, to discourage site clearing and encourage preservation of existing land cover and mature vegetation.
 - e) Natural features such as streams, mature trees or clusters of trees, rock outcrops, bluffs, slopes, high points, views, vistas, and historic or archeological features should be protected to the maximum extent feasible.
 - f) Topography, tree cover, and natural drainage should be treated as fixed determinants of road and lot configuration rather than as malleable elements that can be changed to follow a preferred development scheme.
 - g) Walkways and bicycle paths should be provided to link residences with parking areas, recreation facilities (including parkland and open space) and adjacent land uses where appropriate.
 - h) An OSFPD shall, wherever possible and appropriate, use non-structural stormwater management techniques, e.g., swales, and other drainage techniques that reduce impervious surface and enable infiltration. All structural surface stormwater management facilities shall be accompanied by a conceptual landscape plan. Applicants should anticipate that a definitive subdivision plan and/or site plan will be required to comply with the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Stormwater

Management Policy for peak rate of stormwater runoff.

- i) The plan should make adequate provisions for public safety, protection from fire and flood, and maintenance of public facilities, streets, utilities, and open space.
- 2) Basic Standards for Building Placement. To the maximum extent feasible, an OSFPD should:
- a) Provide for maximum buffering of buildings and structures to adjoining properties either within the proposed development or to adjacent land uses. Such buffering includes, but is not limited to: landscaping, screening materials, natural barriers, fencing, and related measures.
 - b) Preserve attractive views from important vantage points, especially major roadways and residential neighborhoods.
 - c) Avoid regular spacings and building placements that will be viewed as continuous walls from important vantage points, which may be identified in the Pre-Submission Conference with the Planning Board.
 - d) Avoid the placement of structures, common area facilities, and private space related to individual units in a manner that eclipses views or access to open space areas.
 - e) Locate taller buildings away from major streets, abutting and off-site single-family residential areas and homes.
- 3) Basic Standards for Building Design. To the maximum extent feasible, the design of buildings in an OSFPD should:
- a) Avoid unbroken building facades longer than fifty (50) feet.
 - b) Provide human-scale features, especially at lower levels.
 - c) Avoid unarticulated and monotonous building facades and window placement.
 - d) Use materials and building treatments that reduce the visibility of the buildings from distant vantage points and are compatible with backgrounds and surroundings.
 - e) Incorporate materials and colors compatible with other quality buildings of similar scale in the vicinity.
 - f) Provide a variety of building heights and varied roofline articulation that stresses New England vernacular architecture.
- 4) Additional Standards
- a) Mix of Housing Types.
 - (1) The OSFPD may consist of any combination of single-family, two-family, townhouse and multifamily residential structures. A townhouse structure shall not contain more than four dwelling units and a multifamily structure shall not contain more than six dwelling units. Residential structures shall be oriented toward the street serving the premises and not the required parking area.
 - (2) At least five percent (5%) of all units should be fully accessible to persons with disabilities or designed to be retrofitted for persons with disabilities.
 - b) Parking.
 - (1) Each dwelling unit shall be served by two (2) off-street parking spaces, except that dwelling units restricted for occupancy to persons over the age of fifty-five shall be served by 1.5 off-street parking spaces.
 - (2) Parking spaces in front of garages may count in this computation. All parking areas with greater than 12 spaces shall not be visible from the road.
- 5) Common Driveways. A common or shared driveway may serve a maximum number of four

single-family detached dwelling units.

- p. Planning Board Decision; Approval Criteria. After notice and a public hearing in accordance with G.L. c.40A Sections 9 and 11, and after following the procedures outlined in this Bylaw, the Planning Board shall take one of the following actions within 90 days following the date of the public hearing:
- 1) The Planning Board may approve an OSFPD Development Concept Plan Special Permit with any conditions, safeguards, and limitations, considering the following criteria:
 - a) The degree to which the design and layout of the proposed OSFPD is superior to a conventional development in preserving open space for conservation and recreation, preserving natural features of the land, achieving more efficient provision of streets, utilities and other public services, and providing a high degree of design quality.
 - b) The degree to which the OSFPD promotes permanent preservation of open space, agricultural land, forestry land, existing and proposed trails, other natural resources including water bodies and wetlands, and historical and archeological resources.
 - c) The degree to which the OSFPD achieves sustainable design through a more efficient form of development that consumes less open land and conforms to existing topography and natural features better than a conventional subdivision.
 - d) The degree to which the OSFPD addresses the Development Standards at Section 12.o of this Bylaw.
 - e) The degree to which the OSFPD reduces the total amount of disturbance on the site.
 - f) The degree to which the OSFPD furthers the goals and policies of the Hamilton Master Plan, as determined by the Planning Board.
 - g) The degree to which the OSFPD facilitates the construction and maintenance of streets, utilities, and public service in a more economical and efficient manner.
 - h) The degree to which the Development Concept Plan and its supporting narrative documentation comply with all sections of this Bylaw.
 - 2) The Planning Board may deny a special permit upon finding that the application does not comply with the provisions of this Bylaw.
 - 3) The Planning Board may find that the location is best suited for a conventional division of land, and issue a special permit authorizing the applicant to submit a conventional subdivision plan or a plan for a division of land for five or more lots in accordance with G.L. c.41, Sections 81K to 81GG, inclusive, and the Hamilton Planning Board Subdivision Regulations.
- q. Effect of Special Permit Approval. Approval of the Development Concept Plan special permit application shall not be considered approval of any construction. This approval is a preliminary approval, intended to give guidance to the applicant for the development of definitive subdivision plan or the site plan, and to determine whether the proposed concept meets the objectives of this Bylaw and the Town.
- r. Duration of Special Permit. A special permit is granted for a period of two years from the date of its approval and shall lapse if substantial use or construction has not commenced by such date, except for good cause shown. In its sole discretion, the Planning Board may grant extensions to allow construction of subdivisions within the limits set forth in G.L. c. 40A, Section 6 except where such extension would derogate from the intent and purpose of this Bylaw.
- s. Relationship Between the Development Concept Plan and OSFPD Subdivision Plan. The issuance of a Development Concept Plan special permit allows the applicant to submit an OFSPD Definitive Subdivision Plan to the Planning Board for approval under the Subdivision Control Law. Any Development Concept Plan special permit issued by the Planning Board shall specifically state that the OFSPD Definitive Subdivision Plan shall substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan.

- 1) The requirements for submitting an OSFPD Definitive Subdivision Plan shall be in accordance with the Planning Board Subdivision Regulations and the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development (OSFPD) Submission Requirements and Procedures, adopted by the Planning Board and filed with the Town Clerk.
- 2) An OSFPD Definitive Subdivision Plan will be considered not to comply substantially with the Development Concept Plan if the Planning Board determines that any of the following conditions exist:
 - a) An increase in the number of building lots;
 - b) A significant decrease in the open space acreage;
 - c) A significant change in the lot layout;
 - d) A significant change in the general development pattern which adversely affects natural landscape features and open space preservation;
 - e) Significant changes to the storm water management facilities; and/or,
 - f) Significant changes in the wastewater management systems.
- 3) If the Planning Board determines that the OSFPD Definitive Subdivision Plan does not substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan, the Board may disapprove the definitive subdivision plan for failure to comply with the condition of the special permit requiring that the Definitive Subdivision Plan substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan.
- 4) The Planning Board may conditionally approve an OSFPD Definitive Subdivision Plan that does not substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan special permit. However, such conditional approval must identify where the plan does not substantially comply with the special permit for the Development Concept Plan and shall require that the special permit be amended to be in compliance with the significant changes identified by the Planning Board.
 - a) The Planning Board shall also require that the applicant file an application to amend the OSFPD special permit within a specified time period.
 - b) The public hearing on the application to amend the OSFPD special permit shall be limited to the significant changes identified by the Planning Board in their conditional approval of the OSFPD Subdivision Plan. These are the only considerations that the Planning Board may take into account in deciding whether to amend the OSFPD special permit for the Development Concept Plan.
- t. Relationship between OSFPD Development Concept Plan and Site Plan Approval. An OSFPD that does not require approval under the Subdivision Control Law shall be subject to Site Plan Approval by the Planning Board. In these instances, the issuance of a Development Concept Plan special permit allows the applicant to submit an OSFPD Site Plan to the Planning Board for review and approval. An OSFPD Site Plan shall be considered neither a definitive subdivision plan under the Subdivision Control Law nor a site plan subject to the provisions of Section VI.H of this Bylaw. An OSFPD Site Plan shall be considered a technical administrative review of an approved concept plan. Any OSFPD Development Concept Plan special permit issued by the Planning Board shall specifically state that the OSFPD Site Plan shall substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan.
 - 1) After the Planning Board approves the Development Concept Plan special permit, the applicant may submit an application for approval of an OSFPD Site Plan to the Planning Board. No OSFPD site plan application may be submitted unless a concept plan has been approved and is currently in effect. The OSFPD site plan shall be designed to be in conformance with the approved concept plan special permit. If the Planning Board determines that there is a substantial variation between the concept plan special permit and the site plan, it shall hold a public hearing on the modifications of the concept plan special permit.
 - 2) Application for OSFPD Site Plan Approval shall be made with the Planning Board. The size, form, number and contents of the OSFPD Site Plan Approval Application, together

with application or filing fees, shall be set forth in the Open Space and Farmland Preservation Development (OSFPD) Submission Requirements and Procedures adopted by the Planning Board and filed with the Town Clerk.

- 3) OSFPD Site Plan Approval fees shall be governed and set by the Planning Board and shall be assessed to the owner and/or the applicant. Separate technical review fees as provided for in state statute may be required for engineering, architectural or other review by one or more consultants selected by the Town.
 - 4) Within five days after receipt of the complete application, the Planning Board shall distribute copies of the application and plans to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Building Inspector, Department of Public Works, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Office on Disability. These departments and officials shall transmit their recommendations, if any, to the Planning Board within 35 days of receipt of the plans.
 - 5) The Board shall hold a public hearing within 35 days of the receipt of the complete application. Notice of the time, place and subject matter of the public hearing shall be given by the Planning Board, at the expense of the applicant, by advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the town, once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication being not less than 14 days before the day of such hearing, posted with the Town Clerk, and by mailing a copy of such advertisement to the applicant and to all owners of land abutting the land included in such plan as appearing on the most recent tax list, by certified mail at the expense of the applicant.
 - 6) The Board shall make its decision within 90 days following the date of the public hearing. If no action is taken within 90 days, the application shall be deemed approved as submitted.
 - 7) The Building Inspector shall not issue a building permit unless and until the OSFPD site plan review has been completed, and a letter with site plan conditions, if any, has been forwarded to the Building Inspector by the Planning Board.
- u. Site Plan Approval Criteria. The Planning Board shall review an OSFPD Site Plan according to the following criteria. If the OSFPD Site Plan does not meet the review criteria and the conditions of the Development Concept Plan special permit, the Planning Board may disapprove the Site Plan.
- 1) If the Planning Board determines that the OFSPD Site Plan substantially complies with the Development Concept Plan and the following conditions are met, the Planning Board shall approve the Site Plan:
 - a) The application form and content prescribed in the Planning Board's OSFPD Submission Requirements and Procedures is properly completed.
 - b) That the Site Plan is properly completed in accordance with the Planning Board's OSFPD Submission Requirements and Procedures.
 - c) That all the other requirements of this Bylaw are fully met.
 - 2) An OSFPD Site Plan will be considered not to comply substantially with the Development Concept Plan if the Planning Board determines that any of the following conditions exist:
 - a) An increase in the number of buildings or dwelling units;
 - b) A significant decrease in the open space acreage;
 - c) A significant change in the general development pattern which adversely affects natural landscape features and open space preservation;
 - d) Significant changes to the storm water management facilities; and/or,
 - e) Significant changes in the wastewater management systems.
 - 3) If the Planning Board determines that the OFSPD Site Plan does not substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan, the Board may disapprove the Site Plan for failure to comply with the condition of the special permit requiring that the Site Plan substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan.

- 4) The Planning Board may conditionally approve an OSFPD Site Plan that does not substantially comply with the Development Concept Plan special permit. However, such conditional approval must identify where the plan does not substantially comply with the special permit for the Development Concept Plan and shall require that the special permit be amended to be in compliance with the significant changes identified by the Planning Board.
 - a) The Planning Board shall also require that the applicant file an application to amend the OSFPD special permit within a specified time period.
 - b) The public hearing on the application to amend the OSFPD special permit shall be limited to the significant changes identified by the Planning Board in their conditional approval of the OSFPD Site Plan. These are the only considerations that the Planning Board may take into account in deciding whether to amend the OSFPD special permit for the Development Concept Plan.
- v. Development Incentives. The Planning Board may award a density bonus to increase the number of dwelling units beyond the Base Maximum Density. The density bonus for the OSFPD shall not, in the aggregate, exceed fifty percent (50%) of the Base Maximum Density. Computations shall be rounded to the lowest number. A density bonus may be awarded in the following circumstances:
 - 1) For each additional ten percent (10%) of the site (over and above the required 50%) set aside as open space, or for preserving and providing public access to existing walking or riding trails on the parcel or for providing connections to existing trails on abutting parcels, a bonus of five percent (5%) of the Basic Density may be awarded; provided, however, that this density bonus shall not exceed 25% of the Base Maximum Density.
 - 2) For every two (2) dwelling units restricted to occupancy by persons over the age of fifty-five, one (1) dwelling unit may be added as a density bonus; provided, however, that this density bonus shall not exceed 25% of the Base Maximum Density.
 - 3) For every two (2) dwelling units restricted for the maximum period allowed by law for occupancy by households that qualify as low or moderate income, as defined in G.L. c.40B, Sections 20-23 ("Chapter 40B") and the regulations of the Local Initiative Program (LIP) at 760 CMR 45.00, one (1) dwelling unit may be added as a density bonus; provided, however, that this density bonus shall not exceed 25% of the Base Maximum Density.
 - a) All low- or moderate-income housing units in or produced as a result of an OSFPD shall comply with LIP regulations and guidelines in effect on the date of that the applicant submits an OSFPD Definitive Subdivision Plan or an OSFPD Site Plan.
 - b) The provision of dwelling units restricted to occupancy by low- or moderate-income households may be by one of the following options, subject to approved by the Planning Board:
 - (1) The units may be included in the proposed OSFPD.
 - (2) The units may be equivalent dwelling units in another location in Hamilton, acceptable to the Planning Board.
 - (3) The applicant may pay a fee to the Town in lieu of including affordable units in the development. The fee in lieu of providing affordable units shall be equal to the difference between the median single-family home sale price in Hamilton for the calendar year preceding the OSFPD application, as determined by the Hamilton Board of Assessors, and the purchase price affordable to a low- or moderate-income household, to be determined in accordance with LIP regulations and guidelines.

Funds received shall be deposited with the Town Treasurer in an account to be used to promote and achieve affordable housing production goals and objectives of the Town. If such an account must be established with the approval of the legislature and funds are received prior to the establishment of this account, the funds shall be deposited in a gift or grant account to be used for the purpose of promoting and achieving affordable housing production goals and objectives by the Board of Selectmen without further appropriation, in consultation with the Housing Partnership Committee

 - c) The Planning Board shall adopt rules and regulations relative the provision of low- or

moderate-income housing units in an OSFPD.

- 4) In the event that both over 55 and affordable housing density bonuses apply to the same units, the bonuses will each be counted up to the 50% cap.

w. Severability. If any portion of this Bylaw is declared to be invalid, the remainder shall continue to be in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 4-9
*Zoning by-law
Amendment*

Moved by Peter Clark, duly seconded that the Town take no action on this matter after the defeat of Article 4-8.

The Moderator reminded residents this motion requires a 2/3rds vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES, TO TAKE NO ACTION

ARTICLE 4-10
*Citizens' Petition
Zoning By-law
Amendment*

Moved by Kathy Slack, 59 Walnut Road, duly seconded that the Town take no action on this article.

Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES, NO ACTION TAKEN

ARTICLE 5-1
*Free Cash
Application*

Moved by Laurie Wilson, duly seconded that the Town appropriate and authorize the Assessors to use \$502,402 of available certified free cash to reduce the tax rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2004.

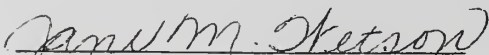
Moderator called for the vote.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION PASSES

ADJOURNMENT

The Moderator adjourned the Annual Town Meeting at 10:55 P.M. until May 13, 2004 at 7 o'clock a.m. at the Winthrop School.

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:


Jane M. Wetson, Town Clerk

TOWN OF HAMILTON

**Annual Town Election
Held
Thursday, May 13, 2004
At
Winthrop School, Hamilton, MA**

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Jane M. Wetson, Town Clerk,

At the close of Voter Registration on April 11, 2004, there were 5,675 registered voters.

	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	TOTAL
Democrat	382	371	213	966
Green Party USA	3	0	2	5
Green-Rainbow	3	1	3	7
Inter. 3rd Party	3	3	0	6
Libertarian	9	5	5	19
Reform	1	0	1	2
Republican	453	461	526	1440
Unenrolled	1337	1125	768	3230
Totals	2191	1966	1518	5675

There were 1,855 votes cast as follows:

Annual Town Election

Precinct 1 --- 669

Precinct 2 --- 723

Precinct 3 --- 463

TOTAL 1855

Candidate Name	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
MODERATOR				
1 Year --- Vote for ONE				
Blanks	152	155	87	394
Bruce C. Ramsey	517	568	376	1461
Write-ins				
SELECTMEN				
3 Years --- Vote for ONE				
Blanks	178	199	131	508
Robert M. Bullivant	355	406	250	1011
John L. Hamilton	136	118	82	336
Write-ins				
TOWN CLERK (To fill unexpired term)				
1 Year --- Vote for ONE				
Blanks	110	151	91	352
Jane M. Wetson	559	572	372	1503
Write-ins				

BOARD OF ASSESSORS**3 Years --- Vote for ONE**

Blanks	165	190	118	473
Gelean M. Campbell	504	533	345	1382
Write-ins				

PLANNING BOARD**5 Years --- Vote for TWO**

Blanks	545	530	350	1425
Zachariah Bensley	382	459	280	1121
Susanne C. Richey	410	457	296	1163
Write-ins	1			1

HOUSING AUTHORITY**5 Years --- Vote for ONE**

Blanks	207	236	155	598
Leigh M. Keyser	462	487	308	1257
Write-ins				

Housing Authority (to fill unexpired term)**2 Years --- Vote for ONE**

Blanks	149	158	113	420
James W. "Jay" Burnham	279	316	210	805
Clarence N. Trepanier	241	249	140	630
Write-ins				

H-W Joint Library Trustee (3)**3 Years --- Vote for ONE**

Blanks	660	671	438	1769
Write-ins		22	19	41
Kevin Sperry	9	19	6	34
Deb Brown		6		6
Annette Janes		5		5

H-W Regional School Committee Vote 3 (3yrs)**3 Years --- Vote for THREE**

Blanks	726	683	422	1831
Donald E. Gallant	359	407	255	1021
Denise A. Bisailon	280	349	203	832
Lisa S. Gaquin	357	382	306	1045
Rudolph P. Pizzano III	285	348	203	836
Write-ins				

H-W Regional School Committee(to fill unexpired term)**1 Year --- Vote for ONE**

Blanks	243	254	168	665
Richard L. Boroff	426	469	291	1186
Write-ins			4	4

Ballot Question 1

Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional \$581,612 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding Hamilton's apportioned share of the net operating cost of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004?

Blanks	3	1	2	6
YES	330	424	287	1041
NO	336	298	174	808

Ballot Question 2

Shall the Town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional \$188,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for street improvements during the twelfth year of a twelve year plan for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004?

Blanks	11	7	6	24
YES	473	483	300	1256
NO	185	233	157	575

Ballot Question 3

Shall the town of Hamilton be allowed to assess an additional \$65,600 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of dredging and improving Weaver Pond for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004?

Blanks	14	16	13	43
YES	358	352	263	973
NO	297	355	187	839

	Hamilton	Wenham	Total
Ballot Question #1			
Blanks	6	5	11
YES	1041	540	1581
NO	808	181	989
H-W School Committee			
Donald E. Gallant	1021	618	1639
Denise A. Bisailon	832	487	1319
Lisa S. Gaquin	1045	518	1563
Rudolph Pizzano, III	836	375	1211
Blanks	1831	776	2607
Write-ins	0	7	7
H-W School Committee (to fill unexpired term)			
Richard L. Boroff	1186	665	1851
Blanks	665	260	925
Write-ins	1	2	6

The polls were closed at 8:00 PM. The results were announced by Bruce Ramsey, Moderator at 9:35 PM.

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:

Jane M. Wetson
 Jane M. Wetson
 Town Clerk

TOWN OF HAMILTON
STATE PRIMARY
HELD
SEPTEMBER 14, 2004
AT
WINTHROP SCHOOL, HAMILTON, MA

At the close of voter registration on August 25, 2004 there were 5,752 Active and Inactive Registered Voters.

PARTY	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	TOTAL
Democrat	374	377	214	965
Green Party- USA	3	0	2	5
Green-Rainbow	3	1	3	7
Inter. 3Rd Party	3	3	2	8
Libertarian	7	5	6	18
Reform	1	0	1	2
Republican	444	468	544	1456
Unenrolled	1351	1142	798	3291
Totals	2186	1996	1570	5752

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Jane M. Wetson, Town Clerk. A total of 272 ballots were cast:

Party	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Totals
Democrat	38	33	43	114
Republican	70	56	42	168
Green-Rainbow	0	0	0	0
Libertarian	0	0	0	0
Totals	108	89	85	282

DEMOCRAT PARTY

State Primary Election

Sept --14--2004

Precinct 1 -- 38

Precinct 2 -- 33

Precinct 3 -- 43

TOTAL 114

Candidate Name	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3
Representative in Congress			
Blanks	3	2	9
John F. Tierney	35	31	34
Write-ins	0	0	0

Councillor	1			
Blanks		3	7	5
Mary-Ellen Manning		35	26	38
Write-in		0	0	0
Senator in General Court	1			
Blanks		3	5	6
Paul M. McGeary		34	28	37
Write-ins		1	0	0
Representative in General Court				
Blanks		3	2	0
Timothy A. Purinton		34	31	42
Write-ins		1	0	1
Sheriff	1			
Blanks		6	4	5
William F. Murley		32	29	37
Write-ins		0	0	1

REPUBLICAN PARTY

State Primary Election

Sept --14--2004

Precinct 1 -- 70

Precinct 2 -- 56

Precinct 3 -- 42

TOTAL

168

Candidate Name		Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3
Representative in Congress	1			
Blanks		18	18	12
Stephen P. O'Malley, Jr		52	38	30
Write-ins		0	0	0
Councillor	1			
Blanks		69	56	42
Write-ins		1	0	0
Senator in General Court	1			
Blanks		4	3	2
Bruce E. Tarr		66	52	40
Write-ins		0	1	0
Representative in General Court				
Blanks		0	1	1
Bradford R. Hill		70	55	41
Write-ins		0	0	0
Sheriff	1			
Blanks		10	9	6
Frank G. Cousins, Jr.		60	47	36
Write-ins		0	0	0

GREEN-RAINBOW PARTY

State Primary Election

Sept --14--2004

Precinct 1 -- 0

Precinct 2 -- 0

Precinct 3 -- 0

TOTAL

0

Candidate Name		Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3
Representative in Congress	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Councillor	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Senator in General Court	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Representative in General Court				
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Sheriff	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0

LIBERTARIAN PARTY

State Primary Election

Sept --14--2004

Precinct 1 -- 0

Precinct 2 -- 0

Precinct 3 -- 0

TOTAL

0

Candidate Name		Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3
Representative in Congress	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Councillor	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Senator in General Court	1			
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0
Representative in General Court				
Blanks		0	0	0
Write-ins		0	0	0

Sheriff

1

Blanks

0

0

0

Write-ins

0

0

0

Polls closed at 8:00 PM. Results were announced by Jane Wetson, Town Clerk at 8:40 PM.

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:

Jane M. Wetson
Jane M. Wetson, Town Clerk

TOWN OF HAMILTON
STATE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
HELD
NOVEMBER 2, 2004
AT
WINTHROP SCHOOL, HAMILTON, MA

At the close of voter registration on October 13, 2004 there were 5,938 Active and Inactive Registered Voters.

Party	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Democrat	387	378	213	978
Green Party-USA	2	0	2	4
Green-Rainbow	4	1	3	8
Inter. 3rd Party	4	4	2	10
Libertarian	7	6	7	20
Reform	1	0	1	2
Republican	456	486	584	1526
Unenrolled	1391	1159	840	3390
Totals	2252	2034	1652	5938

The polls were opened at 7:00 A.M. by Bruce Ramsey, Town Moderator. A total of 4,595 ballots were cast:

		Town of Hamilton			
STATE ELECTION		2-Nov-04			
Final	Precinct				
	1	1759			
	Precinct				
	2	1618			
	Precinct				
	3	1218			
	TOTAL	4595			
		Precinct	Precinct	Precinct	
		1	2	3	Totals
President and Vice President		1			
Blanks		11	2	7	0
Badnarik and Campagna		10	12	13	35
Bush and Cheney		860	816	705	2381
Cobb and LaMache		5	4	9	18
Kerry and Edwards		864	777	479	2120
Write-ins		9	7	5	21

Representative in Congress	1				
Blanks		71	60	64	195
John F. Tierney		1031	916	554	2501
Stephen P. O'Malley, Jr.		657	641	600	1898
Write-ins		0	1	0	1
Councillor	1				
Blanks		641	581	471	1693
Mary-Ellen Manning		1099	1022	720	2841
Write-ins		19	15	27	61
Senator in General Court	1				
Blanks		93	74	84	251
Bruce E. Tarr		1171	1142	849	3162
Paul M. McGeary		494	401	285	1180
Write-ins		1	1	0	2
Representative in General Court	1				
Blanks		39	33	47	119
Bradford R. Hill		1148	1096	776	3020
Timothy A. Purinton		572	489	395	1456
Write-ins		0	0	0	0
Sheriff	1				
Blanks		108	111	92	311
Frank G. Cousins, Jr.		1161	1121	870	3152
William F. Murley		488	383	255	1126
Write-ins		2	3	1	6

The polls were closed at 8:00 PM. The results were announced by Bruce Ramsey, Town Moderator at 9:10 PM.

A TRUE COPY: ATTEST:

Jane M. Sketson
Jane M. Wetson, Town Clerk

